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UM News

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UM Professor Earns National Journalism Award

April 30, 2019

MISSOULA – Denise Dowling, longtime broadcast journalist, journalism professor and two-time interim dean of the University of Montana School of Journalism, has won a prestigious national award from the Society of Professional Journalists for her radio documentary “[Alex, Not Amy: Growing Up Transgender in the Rural West.](#)”

The documentary follows the story of 10-year-old Alex O'Neill, who knew he was a boy when he was a toddler, as he changes his gender legally and socially. Listeners get to know Alex and his family as they navigate issues like which swim team Alex competes on and which bathroom he uses while he's at school.



The story looks at the policy, history, mental health concerns and trends around transgender youth. But, it's about much more too – it's a story about family, identity, community and belonging.

Dowling's piece, which originally aired on Montana Public Radio, also was named a Regional Edward R. Murrow Award winner recently by the Radio Television Digital News Association and is now under consideration for a National Murrow Award as well. In addition, the documentary was named a finalist for an E.B. Craney Award from the Montana Broadcasters Association and the Greater Montana Foundation in the Radio Non-Commercial Program of the Year category.

The Society of Professional Journalists' Sigma Delta Chi Awards recognize the best in professional journalism in categories covering print, radio, television, newsletters, art/graphics, online and research. This year's winners will be honored during a June ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Regional stations in South Dakota, Utah, Idaho, Wyoming and North Dakota picked up the documentary. Producer Skip Wood at Prairie Public Radio in North Dakota called the piece, "Top notch. Heartwarming. Positive. Important."

Dowling said she first became interested in the challenges of being young and transgender when one of her students shared the roadblocks he met when transitioning.

"When I began reporting, I found it remarkable just how many young people and their families were facing similar paths," she said. "Alex, his parents and siblings were incredibly gracious to allow me into their lives to document his transition. They welcomed me into some of their most private moments as I followed Alex and his journey over three years. I learned so much from them and saw firsthand how family support makes all the difference in a transgender child's mental health."

Dowling wanted to document Alex's story while sharing valuable information about the issue with the public.

"There's a dearth of empirical research parents, educators and others can turn to for guidance," she said. "I spoke to researchers, doctors, educators and attorneys to learn about the particular challenges these kids face in society. The documentary shares that information in hopes that other families and all of us can help transgender youth find a successful future."

The piece was made possible through funding from the UM School of Journalism and the UM Faculty Research Fund, with special thanks to Montana Public Radio.

###

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UM Students Become Last Best Speakers

April 30, 2019

MISSOULA – The top six students enrolled in Introduction to Public Speaking at the University of Montana showcased their skills April 25 during the Last Best Speakers Competition on campus.

Kelli Rosenquist of **Missoula** was named the top speaker in the persuasive category, and Logan Tomlinson of **Hamilton** was the top informative speaker.



They each earned \$100.

The persuasive runners-up were Claire Shady of **Missoula**, and Jensen Ziola of **Saskatoon, Saskatchewan**. Both received \$25.

The other two Last Best Speaker were Travis Epperson of **Malta** and James Flanagan of **Worden**, who also both received \$25.

Participants in the competition, which takes place each semester, include the top informative and persuasive speakers enrolled in the course during spring semester. The top speakers from each section engage in a preliminary competition, and then six finalists speak during the Last Best Speaker Competition to earn the Last Best Speaker honor.

###

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American Association of Geographers Elects UM Provost as Fellow

April 30, 2019

UM News Service

MISSOULA – University of Montana Professor Jon Harbor was recently selected as a Fellow by the American Association of Geographers.

AAG is a nonprofit scientific and educational society focused on the advancement of geography. It was founded in 1904 and has over 12,000 members. The AAG's Fellow distinction honors outstanding scholars who have made significant contributions to advancing geography and is awarded to up to 0.2% of AAG membership annually.

In recognizing Harbor, AAG noted he has over 200 publications jointly with students and colleagues spanning environmental science, glacial research, teaching and learning,

and university administration. He has co-authored or edited three books, including “Glaciers and Glacial Landscapes in China,” for which he and his colleagues won a Scientific Excellence Prize. Harbor also was recognized for serving in editorial roles for top-tier journals, for serving his colleagues through leadership roles in several professional organizations and for founding several research institutes.



“Other recipients are leaders in the field who I have looked up to throughout my career and who steer the direction of geographic research and thinking,” Harbor said. “I’m honored that the impacts of the work I have been able to accomplish jointly with my students and collaborators is being recognized in this way.”

Harbor, a geography professor, serves UM as provost and executive vice president and also has a joint appointment in geosciences. He earned his bachelor’s degree in geography from Cambridge University, his master’s degree in geography from the University of Colorado, and a doctoral degree in geological sciences from the University of Washington. He specializes in glacial landscape history and processes, environmental geography and environmental education.

UM’s Department of Geography is a unique program that capitalizes on the distinctive flavor of the Rocky Mountain West and offers undergraduate and graduate students outstanding opportunities for studies in mountain landscapes, community and environmental planning, and geospatial technologies. The geography curriculum blends education in the unique challenges of mountain environments, the organizing principles of sustainable development and community resilience, and the powerful analytic capabilities of Geographic Information Systems, while preparing graduates for meaningful careers domestically and abroad.

“We are proud to see Professor Harbor selected to serve as an AAG Fellow,” said David Shively, professor and chair of the Department of Geography. “His impact and leadership in our discipline are well deserving of this distinction – it will be of great benefit to the department and our programs and students, the University and community of Missoula, and to the discipline and our broader geography community.”

Harbor has taught and conducted research worldwide – from Glacier National Park and the Front Range of Colorado to Scandinavia, Central Asia, New Zealand and Antarctica. Almost all of his research projects are with teams of students and collaborators, and he is intrigued by the dynamics and interactions of earth processes,

landscapes and human activity.

Previous recognition has included an Honorary Doctorate from Stockholm University, a Fulbright Senior Scholarship, and selection as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, as a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society (U.K.), and as an American Council of Education Fellow.

Harbor's recent work includes co-leading international scientific teams using novel integrations of observational and numerical modeling techniques to study how glaciers and ice sheets have changed over thousands to millions of years in Antarctica and on the Tibetan Plateau. His current students are using indigenous research frameworks to enhance higher education and are examining the implications of high-resolution landscape data for computer models of watershed flooding.

Harbor was inducted as an AAG Fellow during a ceremony held April 7 in conjunction with the association's annual conference in Washington, D.C.

###

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New Digital Media Lab Announces Summer Workshop Series at UM School of Journalism

April 29, 2019

MISSOULA – This summer, storytellers of all backgrounds and skill levels from across the country are invited to attend hands-on workshops taught by top-tier media professionals at the new Montana Media Lab, an innovative, digital media lab based at the University of Montana School of Journalism.

Workshop topics range from podcasting and social media to writing and documentary film, with instructors from National Public Radio, PBS, Transmitter Media, the Newseum Institute, the University of Chapel Hill School of Media and Journalism, and UM's School of Journalism.

The following workshops are accepting applicants:

- **Audio Storytelling and Podcasting, June 10-14** – Michael May, senior producer of NPR's "Story Lab," will cover interviewing, gathering sound, writing and editing a script, and cutting and mixing audio. Participants will

learn how to plan, produce and market their own podcast.

- **Audio Tools for Non-Audio Storytellers, June 27-29** – Lacy Roberts, managing producer of Transmitter Media, will provide audio training for those who tell stories in a different medium – photographers, filmmakers, writers, etc. Participants will learn to use digital audio recorders, capture sound in the field, write for the ear and edit long-form narratives and short-form news pieces.
- **Writing Well: Telling Stories People Notice, July 8-10** – Jule Banville, associate professor of journalism at UM, will teach the fundamentals applicable to all forms of writing – from social media and websites to nonprofit and business communication.
- **Mobile and Social Media Engagement, July 17** – Media strategist and digital journalist Val Hoepfner will share tips on how to grow audience engagement and develop mobile and social media storytelling skills. From efficient apps to best practices, participants will learn how to create and leverage engaging digital content.
- **Short and Smart: Mobile Video Storytelling, July 18** – Media strategist and digital journalist Val Hoepfner will cover the principles of smartphone video storytelling – from sequencing and interviewing to capturing high-quality sound and publishing.

The Montana Media Lab combines small classes, experienced instructors and the latest technology. Participants can elect to take most workshops for university credit via a partnership with the UM School of Extended and Lifelong Learning (SELL). Interested participants can view a complete list of summer workshops and register at <http://www.montanamedialab.com/workshops>.

In addition to experiential workshops, the Montana Media Lab designs and implements digital storytelling projects in rural public schools across Montana.

“Our goal is to give journalists and non-journalists alike the tools to tell their stories effectively across multiple platforms,” said founding director Anne Bailey. “In Montana schools, we aim to empower rural and Native American youth to find their voices at a young age and learn to navigate the 24/7 media world they live in.”

For more information call Bailey at 406-243-4401 or email anne.bailey@umontana.edu.

###

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KIDS COUNT Report: Uninsured Rate for Montana Children Continues to Drop

April 25, 2019

UM News Service

MISSOULA – The number of uninsured children in Montana continues to drop, according to the recently released 2018 Montana KIDS COUNT data book.

The book is made possible by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, and is released to highlight information pertaining to state demographics and indicators to help improve resources and opportunities for Montana children. It includes data on a wide range of indicators at the state and county levels, from household median income to the number of children in state care across Montana.

The percent of Montana children under the age of 18 without health insurance decreased from 8% in 2014 to 5% 2016. Comparatively, in 2011 and 2012 the rate of uninsured children was 12%.

According to the 2018 KIDS COUNT data book, the population of Montana grew from 974,989 in 2010 to 1,038,656 in 2016, an increase of 6.5 percent. During the same period, the child population rose from 219,828 to 227,377.

This difference in growth is due in part to a falling Montana birth rate, as well as to an influx of adults from other states.

The Montana KIDS COUNT data book is available on the Montana KIDS COUNT

<http://www.montanakidscount.org/publications/montana-data-book/>. To order a printed copy, email info@montanakidscount.org. Learn more about Montana KIDS COUNT at www.montanakidscount.org.

Montana KIDS COUNT is housed in the Bureau of Business and Economic Research in the College of Business at the University of Montana. It is a grantee of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, and part of the National KIDS COUNT network of grantees in all 50 states and U.S. territories working to provide access to high quality data and research to inform policy decisions that impact children and families.

###

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Public Lecture, Workshop Series Aims to Rethink Suicide Prevention

April 25, 2019

MISSOULA – Despite focused efforts in suicide prevention the past two decades, the number of suicides in the United States has increased by more than 60% over the past 17 years.

In the coming months, a University of Montana professor with more than 30 years of suicide prevention experience will offer a novel approach to understanding suicide through public lectures and professional training across the state. The first two events will be held Thursday and Friday, May 16-17, in Bozeman.

Dr. John Sommers-Flanagan, a UM professor in the Department of Counselor Education, said suicide deaths are increasing even as federal, state and local suicide prevention efforts have multiplied.

“Even in the face of vigorous and well-intended suicide and intervention efforts, per-capita suicide rates continue to rise at an average of 2% per year,” he said. “The needle keeps moving in the wrong direction.”

In raw numbers, national rates have gone from 29,180 deaths from suicide in 1999 to 47,173 deaths in 2017.

Sponsored by Big Sky Youth Empowerment, the lectures and workshops emphasize strengths, resilience and a debunking of problematic myths about suicide.

Sommers-Flanagan will present the first public lecture from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, May 16, at Montana State University, SUB Ballroom D. The first professional workshop training will follow from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 17, in MSU's Norm Abjornson Hall Room 165.

The public lectures are free. Professional training workshops cost \$100 for 6.5 hours of continuing education and \$50 for students and unlicensed participants. Additional public lectures are planned for Billings, Great Falls and Missoula.

For more information visit <https://www.byep.org/saw>.

###

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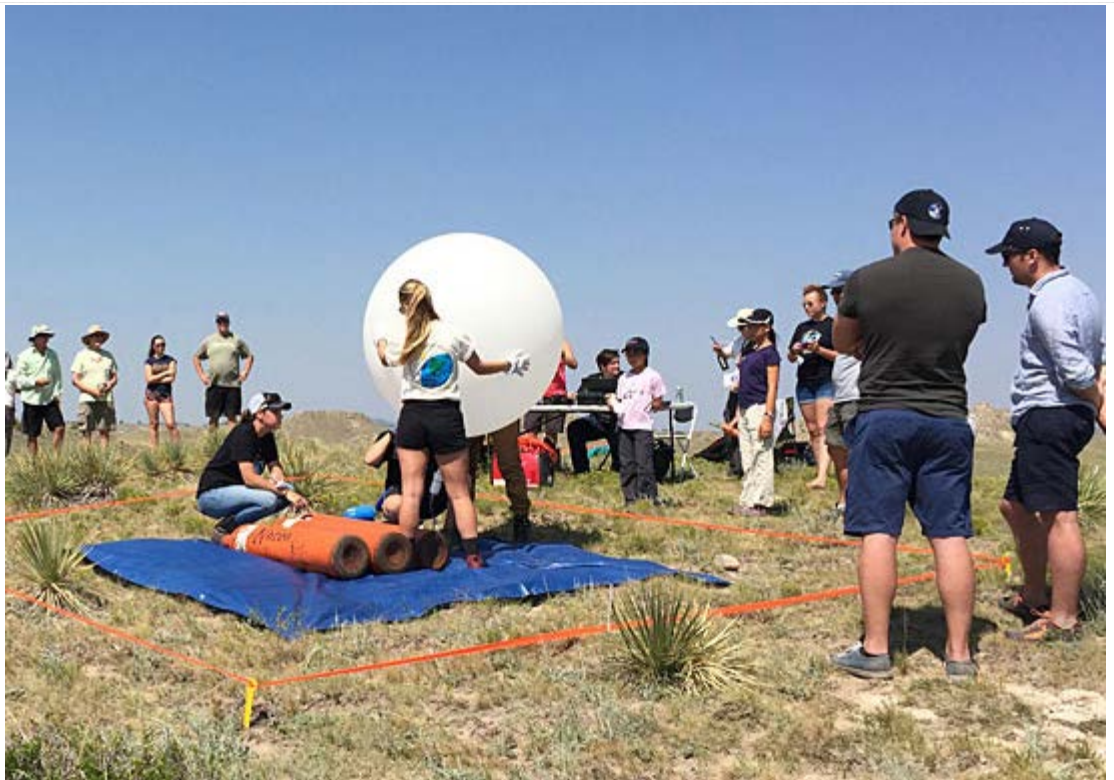
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UM Students, Researchers to Study Solar Eclipse in Chile

April 25, 2019

MISSOULA – The Montana Space Grant Consortium has received funding from MathWorks Inc. and the NASA Science Mission Directorate to perform weather measurements during the coming July 2 solar eclipse that will be visible in parts of Chile and Argentina.

The University of
Montana's Balloon



Outreach, Research, Exploration and Landscape Imaging System (BOREALIS) program will lead a

team of Montana researchers traveling to La Serena, Chile, to take part in the first total solar eclipse study of its kind.

UM researchers on the team will include Jennifer Fowler, director of the Autonomous Aerial Systems Office, Flight Director Deb Ross, graduate student Thomas Colligan and undergraduate student Carl Spangrude. Montana State University undergraduate Jaxen Godfrey also will participate.

The team will collaborate with scientists at the Andes LiDAR observatory to perform the first total solar eclipse study that combines lower and upper atmospheric measurements to investigate propagation of atmospheric gravity waves through the entire atmosphere. It's called a radiosonde field campaign.

"Atmospheric gravity waves are like bow waves from a ship on water," Fowler said. "These waves transfer momentum and energy through the atmosphere. This study is the first of its kind to follow the waves from the troposphere and stratosphere into the mesosphere."

She said the Montana students not only will participate in the balloon-borne research but also get to collaborate with scientists at the Andes LiDAR Observatory and glimpse a different measurement and analysis method.

Colligan, a master's student in computer science who earned his B.A. in physics from UM in 2018, has worked on BOREALIS research since 2016 and was part of the research team that captured data and conducted outreach during the August 2017 total solar eclipse visible across parts of North America.

"The opportunities that have come along with BOREALIS are pretty much endless," Colligan said. "I've been working on everything from the atmospheric gravity waves research to drones to putting sensors on cameras on high altitude balloons. It's been a huge benefit that has provided me with experience in so many different fields."

BOREALIS is Montana Space Grant Consortium's high altitude-ballooning program at both UM and MSU. Students in the program work together to conceive, design and build payloads that are flown up to 100,000 feet.

Since 2004, more than 120 students have directly participated in research around the world, making UM-BOREALIS one of the most experienced higher education ballooning programs in the nation.

Montana Space Grant Consortium was established in 1991 as a component of NASA's National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program. The Montana program is one of a national network of 52 consortia working to strengthen aerospace research and education in the U.S.

###

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\$1.5M Grant from Washington Foundation to Benefit UM, MCPS Education Programs

April 24, 2019

UM News Service

MISSOULA – The 21st Century Teaching and Learning Initiative has been reinvigorated with an additional three-year, \$1.5 million grant, Missoula County Public Schools Superintendent Mark Thane announced April 23.

The initiative is a partnership between the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation, MCPS and the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences at the University of Montana.

It is a continuation of Schools and Higher Education Advancing Public Education across the P-20 Spectrum (SHAPE P-20 and SHAPE 2.0), a set of initiatives begun in 2013 aimed at creating a modern learning environment by transforming the relationship among universities, teachers and student experiences from preschool to the doctoral level to ensure students graduate from high school with strong critical thinking, creative problem solving, communication and teamwork skills.

The 21st Century Teaching and Learning Initiative refines the original SHAPE P-20 and SHAPE 2.0 initiatives to

focus on programs that incorporate cross-cultural studies and an understanding of global issues, STEAM (science, technology, engineering and math, plus arts integration), early intervention for at-risk toddlers and preschoolers, universal design for learning environments and strategies that are flexible for students' needs, pioneering digital education and professional learning communities that allow teachers to investigate and improve teaching practices. These programs place the focus on learning, empowering students and staff to create a globally competitive learning environment in every MCPS school.

"The partnership opened the door to the vast array of expertise and academic resources available at UM," Thane said. "When we collaborated with UM for SHAPE P-20, we realized the incredible impact we could have together in building an educational environment focused around helping every student succeed."

The 21st Century Teaching and Learning Initiative continues the focus on the most important component of any classroom: the teacher. UM's role as a regionally and nationally recognized training ground for teachers means research and cutting-edge techniques are available to educators locally, without having to invest in costly out-of-state training.

"The original SHAPE grants delivered on many levels: increasing high school retention and graduation rates, developing family and community investment and engagement with the school district, teaching 21st-century learning skills and promoting professional development for teachers," said Adrea Lawrence, interim dean of the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education. "But the component that made the biggest difference in the success of the programs created under the grant was the powerful partnership that emerged between the University and the MCPS system."

The foundation's support will allow UM and MCPS to deepen their partnership to offer solutions at multiple stages of a child's education. The MCPS mission to ensure that all students achieve their potential regardless of circumstance or ability is supported by the early intervention programs built into this initiative.

"Over the last six years, UM and MCPS have taken the lead on building a teaching and learning model that ensures that every child has the opportunity to succeed," said Mike Halligan, executive director of the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation. "The success of SHAPE P-20 and SHAPE 2.0 has proven that a program model centered around teachers and students will impact generations of educators and students long into the future."

The partnership has fostered the development of Spanish-English immersion programs, an International Baccalaureate K-12 pathway, STEAM-focused schools, blended learning programs and numerous teacher-training opportunities. The new grant will continue to push those efforts forward.

"The SHAPE grants have allowed us to seek avenues of engagement that take us out of our comfort zone," Thane said, "and the new 21st Century Teaching and Learning Initiative is a way to greatly enhance professional development opportunities for our teachers and staff and positively impact the diversity of our course offerings, relevancy and vibrancy of public education. It's giving us the opportunity to become recognized as such a leader that currently we see a demand regionally for seats in our schools and nationally for the chance to teach in our classrooms. Together we can increase the awareness of innovation in Montana's public education system."

For UM, the partnership aligns with the institution's top priorities to emphasize student success and drive excellence and innovation in teaching, research and learning.

“The generosity and dedication of allies like the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation help propel our great university in its commitment to serving students and the state of Montana,” said UM President Seth Bodnar. “We’re thankful for their longstanding support and their partnership as we work with MCPS to shape the way we deliver education and transform lives.”

Through Campaign Montana – the University’s most ambitious fundraising campaign ever – and with support of partners like the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation, UM is putting student success at the center of all it does.

###

About the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation

The Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation is the major philanthropic organization for The Washington Companies and the Washington family. The Foundation strives to better the human condition by supporting programs and services that give people the tools to enhance the quality of their lives and to benefit society as a whole. Funding for the Foundation comes from personal contributions from the Washington family and annual contributions from The Washington Companies. Since its inception in 1988, Foundation giving and the Washington family’s personal contributions and pledges to charitable causes total more than a third of a billion dollars. The Foundation website is located at <http://www.dpwfoundation.org>.

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UM Report: Visitors Spent \$3.7B in Montana Last Year

April 24, 2019

MISSOULA – Last year, 12.4 million out-of-state visitors contributed over \$3.7 billion in travel spending to Montana's economy, according to a recent report from the Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research at the University of Montana.

The latest report finalizes preliminary estimates from January with new fourth-quarter tourism data. The new data showed that Montana tourism in the summer months generated more than half of the year's tourism dollars. Forty-six percent, or 5.7 million visitors, traveled to Montana in the third quarter of the year, July through September, and spent 52% of the \$3.7 billion. Travel groups spent an average of \$156 per day, for a total of \$1.9 billion during the summer months.



During the first and second quarters of 2018, traveler groups spent an average of \$161 and \$135 per day, respectively, totaling \$440 million and \$853 million in spending. Fourth quarter spending in 2018 totaled \$499 million, with traveler groups spending \$130 per day on average.

Visitation to Montana was down 1% in 2018, though spending in the state increased nearly 11% overall.

"It's really a nice overall picture for the year, with the number of travelers holding nearly steady, but we had over a 10 percent increase in what the state's visitors spent while they were here," said Kara Grau, ITRR assistant director of economic analysis.

Visitors spend most on fuel, dining out and lodging according to Grau.

"Even travelers just passing through Montana make stops for fuel, food and possibly a night or two as they make their way through the state, not to mention those here for longer vacations, so it's no surprise that spending on those things always tops the list," Grau said.

Tourist spending on outfitted and guided activities has increased over the past few years, surpassing retail spending by travelers to become fourth on the list of spending categories.

Grau said this jump can be attributed to a shift in tourists valuing experiences over things.

"We saw a bit of an increase in the proportion of vacationers compared to 2017, along with a decrease in the proportion of travelers in Montana simply passing through," says Jeremy Sage, ITRR economist and associate director. "That, along with a good 2017-18 ski season, likely bolstered traveler spending during the year."

In 2018, out-of-state travelers directly supported nearly \$3.2 billion in economic activity for Montana and over 43,000 state jobs, as well as indirectly supporting an additional \$2.1 billion in economic activity and more than 16,200 jobs.

For more information about 2018 visitor spending estimates, visit

https://scholarworks.umt.edu/itrr_pubs/385/. All information and reports published by ITRR are online at <http://www.itrr.umt.edu>.

###

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Montana Public Radio Concludes 2019 Spring Pledge Week

April 19, 2019

MISSOULA – Montana Public Radio ended its annual spring fundraiser with nearly \$500,000 in listener pledges. Live music, listener challenges, special programs and hundreds of phone volunteers were highlights during the week.

At the end of the pledge drive on Sunday, the tally reached \$497,413, concluding an eight-day event that raised nearly 81% of the \$610,000 goal. There were a total of 3,539 listener pledges during the on-air fundraiser, which ran April 7-14.

“We are grateful to all of the listeners who showed their love and made donations to Montana Public Radio this spring,” said Ray Ekness, director of the University of Montana Broadcast Media Center. “The spring pledge week is the first major fundraising effort for our 2019 budget. It is a concern not to have made it closer to the goal.”

The drive concluded with the popular “Pet Wars,” where cats returned to the top by outnumbering dogs 815 to 753. The pet competition also included many pledges for chickens, horses, goats, rodents and more.

Listeners donated thousands of gifts to entice listeners to donate to the station. “We want to thank all of the folks who donated thank you gifts and came in to answer the phones during our pledge drive,” fundraising Director Linda Talbott said.

“We are very thankful to all of our listeners,” said Michael Marsolek, MTPR program director. “We’re proud of our Montana program hosts and the outstanding programming that the pledges help support.”

“I’m so proud of the community effort of everyone that participated in this fun and rewarding week,” said MTPR Director of Membership Anne Hosler. “While we didn’t make our goal, we will implement strategies to make up the revenue needed, and we are confident our listener-members will continue to contribute.”

MTPR needs to raise more than \$1.9 million – 75 percent of the station’s total operating budget –from listeners, sponsors and events during its fundraising year. Listeners can continue to contribute online or via the mail if they missed making their pledge of support last week.

Montana Public Radio is a public service of UM and broadcasts on 89.1 Missoula (KUFM), 91.5 Missoula, city (K218AI), 91.9 Hamilton (KUFN), 89.5 Polson (KPJH), 90.1 Kalispell, Whitefish, North Valley (KUKL), 90.5 Libby (KUFL), 91.7 Kalispell, city (K219BN), 101.3 Swan Lake (K267BJ), 91.3 Butte (KAPC), 91.7 Helena (KUHM), 91.7 Dillon (K219DN) and 89.9 Great Falls (KGPR).

Learn more at <http://mtpr.org>.

###

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Expanded Baucus Leaders Cohort Heading to D.C. for Summer Internships

April 19, 2019

MISSOULA – After a competitive application process, 11 University of Montana students were selected as 2019 Baucus Leaders.

Thanks to a generous gift from the Washington Foundation, the new cohort is more than double last year's. Each student will receive a stipend to defray their airfare and living expenses as they spend the summer in Washington, D.C., interning with legislative and agency offices.

"If you look at their bios," said Ambassador Max Baucus, "you'll see that these students are truly outstanding."

The Baucus Leaders program is provided by the University's Max Baucus Institute, which recognizes that public service experience inspires students to engage in meaningful work to benefit society. The work of the institute is an extension of the important bipartisan, consensus-building public service Baucus exemplified during his long and distinguished career as a U.S. senator and ambassador to China.

"I cannot imagine a more fitting way to highlight the critical need for young people to engage in public service than

our Baucus Leaders program,” said Professor Sam Panarella, director of the Baucus Institute. “These students represent the best and brightest our state has to offer, and I am incredibly excited to watch them grow as scholars and people through this once-in-a-lifetime experience.”

This year’s Baucus Leaders include UM undergraduate students from a variety of majors, as well as UM graduate students from the law and Master of Public Administration (MPA) programs. The Baucus Leaders are:

- Ethan Holmes from **Helena**, an undergraduate studying Russian, history and political science. Holmes will intern for Sen. Steve Daines.
- Daniel Parsons from **Florence**, a junior studying economics and political science. Parsons will intern with Sen. Jon Tester.
- Garrett Musso from **Powell, Wyoming**, a junior studying parks, recreation and tourism management and resource conservation. Musso will intern with Rep. Greg Gianforte.
- Lee Adler from **Missoula**, a sophomore studying political science. Adler will intern with Sen. Daines.
- Forrest Graves from **Gypsum, Colorado**, a first-year law student. Graves will intern with the U.S. Senate Finance Committee.
- Becca Warwick from **Salinas, California**, an undergraduate political science and history major. Warwick will intern with Sen. Kristen Gillibrand.
- Kayla Irish from **Lewistown**, a junior studying history and Chinese. Irish will intern for Sen. Charles Schumer.
- Michelle Scotti from **Jackson Hole, Wyoming**, a graduate student in the MPA program. Scotti will intern with the U.S. Department of Transportation.
- Erika Byrne from **Billings**, a sophomore majoring in political science. Byrne will intern for Sen. Chuck Grassley.
- Augustine Menke from **Elk River, Minnesota**, a second-year law student. Menke will intern for the U.S. Department of Transportation.
- Rebecca Power of **Bonner**, a graduate student in the MPA program. Power will intern with the U.S. Department of Transportation.

As interns, Baucus Leaders will be involved in a range of projects and activities to serve constituents and learn about politics and policymaking.

“It is important for Montana students to experience Washington, D.C., firsthand,” said Ambassador Baucus. “I know they will be on fire for public service by the time they return.”

###

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UM School of Theatre & Dance to Present Environmental Dances

April 18, 2019

MISSOULA – The University of Montana School of Theatre & Dance will close its mainstage season with an environmental-themed “Dance in Concert” this month.

Produced by UM Professor of Dance Michele Antonioli, the performances will take place at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, April 25-27, as well as at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 27, in the Montana Theatre.

General admission tickets cost \$20, and senior and student tickets cost \$16. Admission for children 12 and under is



\$10. Tickets are available by calling the UMArts Box Office at 406-243-4581 from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday or by ordering online at <http://www.umt.edu/theatredance>.

Featuring an evening-length concert of seven dances created by Professor Nicole Bradley Browning over the past four years, "Dance in Concert" delivers a rich sensory feast of choreographic invention with vibrant lighting and scenic, costume and sonic design. The dances each honor our interconnectedness with place and the powerful natural characteristics of Montana.

A striking cast of 30, including current dancers and distinguished alumni returning to the UM stage, perform against a grand setting of water, storms, fire and earth to help the audience rediscover a sense of place.

"In the 17 years that I have had the honor to teach and make dances at the University of Montana, I have yet to create an evening-length concert of this scope and breadth," Bradley Browning said. "Each dancer performing played an integral role in the evolution and craft of the work. It is with great joy that I have alumni and current students sharing the stage to celebrate the beauty of Montana, through dance, for our community."

For more information on the event, call Bradley Browning at 406-529-3331 or email nicole.bradleybrowning@umontana.edu.

###

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Former NatGeo Editor, 'Bundyville' Podcaster Named UM Pollner Professors

April 17, 2019

MISSOULA – A former editor of National Geographic and a freelance journalist who has earned accolades for her work covering armed militia protests will be the T. Anthony Pollner Distinguished Professors for the 2019-20 academic year at the University of Montana School of Journalism.

Leah Sottile will be the fall professor, teaching a course in narrative writing and the

business of freelance journalism. Sottile began her career at The Pacific Northwest Inlander, an alternative weekly



in Spokane, and has for the past several years written primarily about people on the fringes of society.

She has reported extensively on the group led by Ammon Bundy, who in 2016 took over the Malheur Wildlife Refuge in Oregon, and his father, Cliven Bundy, who directed a 2014 standoff in Nevada after a confrontation with federal agents over his refusal to pay grazing fees on federal land. Her work on the podcast "Bundyville" earned her and Oregon Public Radio a finalist award from the American Society of Magazine Editors. Her newspaper and magazine clients include The Washington Post, The Atlantic, Rolling Stone, Outside and Al Jazeera America.

Chris Johns was editor-in-chief of National Geographic from 2005-14. He began his National Geographic career in 1995 as a photographer and had a variety of positions at the magazine before he became its editor. While serving as editor, the magazine won 23 National Magazine Awards, and in 2008 he was named magazine editor of the year.

Subsequent to that job, he was chief content officer and director of the Centers of Excellence for National Geographic Media and now serves as program leader for National Geographic Society's "Beyond Yellowstone" program, an assignment that will conclude at the end of this year. Johns will teach a course in conservation journalism, examining the powerful impact visual storytelling has had in the conservation movement.

The Pollner professorship was created in 2001 by the family and friends of T. Anthony Pollner, a 1999 School of Journalism alumnus who died in a motorcycle accident. Dozens of renowned journalists have served as distinguished professors at the school since the program's inception. In addition to teaching a course, the Pollner professors work with the staff of the Montana Kaimin, the student newspaper at UM.

###

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UM Regents Professor Allendorf Elected to American Academy of Arts and Sciences

April 17, 2019

UM News Service

MISSOULA – Fred Allendorf, University of Montana Regents Professor of Biology Emeritus, recently was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

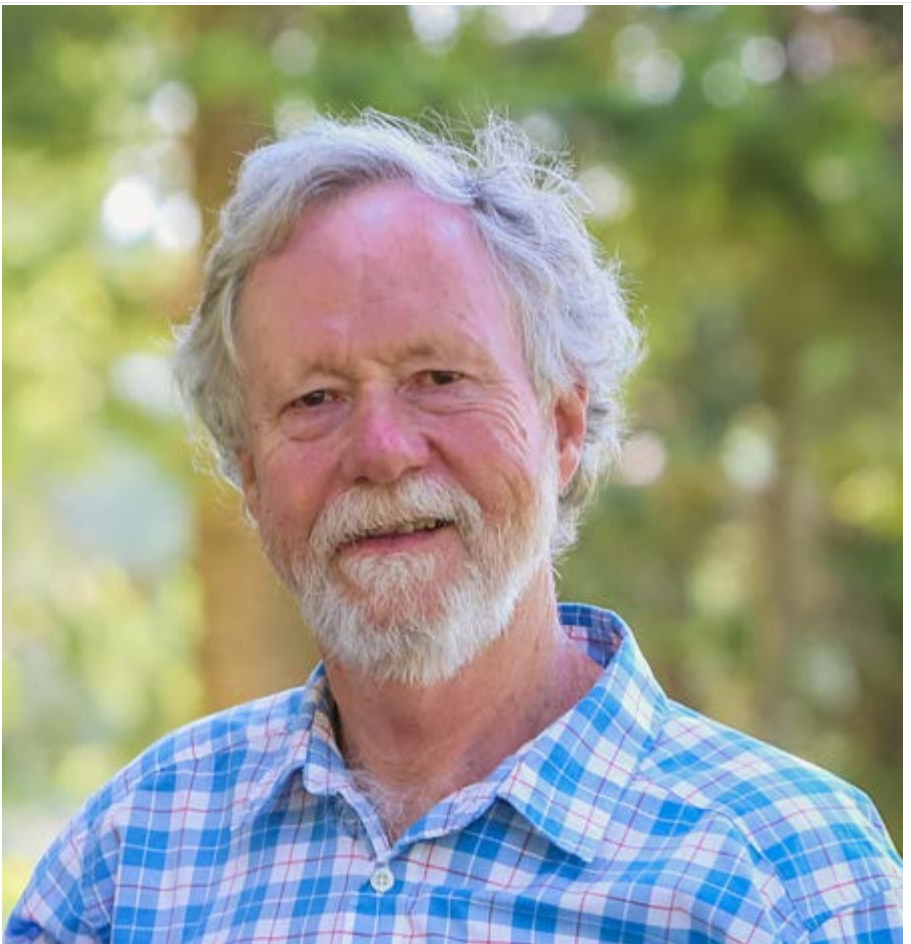
Allendorf is one of more than 200 new members who constitute the Academy's 239th class, which is made up of some of the world's most accomplished scholars, scientists, writers and artists, as well as civic, business and philanthropic leaders. Allendorf is just the second member of the academy ever elected from any Montana institution. Doug Emlen, a UM biology professor, was elected to the AAAS in 2016.

"I am honored to receive this recognition of my work," Allendorf said. "I look

forward to contributing to the Academy's mission of providing practical solutions to complex challenges that we are facing.”

Allendorf is one of a handful of people who founded the field of conservation genetics. He was one of the first to apply genetics to real-world conservation problems, and he has continued to advance the application of genetics, and now genomics, to pressing conservation issues.

His research focuses on the application of population and evolutionary genetics to challenges in conservation biology. His book “Conservation and the Genetics of Populations,” co-written with UM Professor Gordon Luikart and Sally Aitken of the University of British



Columbia, provides an understanding of how genetics can be used to conserve species threatened with extinction.

In 2018 Allendorf was recognized as one of the world's most highly cited researchers by Clarivate Analytics. The journal *Molecular Ecology* awarded Allendorf its 2015 Molecular Ecology Prize.

Along with holding his emeritus rank at UM, Allendorf is a Professorial Research Fellow at Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand. He was a postdoctoral scholar at the University of Aarhus in Denmark and at Nottingham University in England. He also was a Senior Fulbright Fellow at Victoria University of Wellington and has held positions at the University of California, Davis; the University of Oregon; the University of Minnesota; and the University of Western Australia.

“Fred’s influence as a scientist has been tremendous because of his far-reaching vision of how genetic data can be used to address fundamental questions in the conservation of plants and animals, combined with his extremely high standards of scientific rigor and integrity,” said Creagh Breuner, UM associate dean in the Division of Biological Sciences.

Founded in 1780, AAAS is one of the country’s oldest learned societies and independent policy research centers, convening leaders from the academic, business and government sectors to respond to the challenges facing – and opportunities available to – the nation and the world. Members contribute to academy publications and studies of science, engineering and technology policy; global security and international affairs; the humanities, arts and education; and American institutions. Read more about new members at <https://www.amacad.org/newly-elected-members>.

###

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UM Forestry College to Host Mass Timber Workshop, Kiosk Dedication

April 17, 2019

MISSOULA – The W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation at the University of Montana will host a kiosk dedication and mass timber workshop Thursday, May 2 on the University campus.

Free and open to the public, the events are slated to celebrate the emerging environmental and economic benefits of mass timber construction across the planning, architecture and construction industries. Mass timber construction refers to large-scale timber products created from small-timber resources. The material is largely a carbon-neutral resource and is gaining popularity in green building initiatives across the country.



The rising demand for mass timber construction for its environmental benefits is attractive for Montana's cornerstone natural resource economy, said Tom DeLuca, dean of the forestry college. That's because most large-scale commercial construction is dominated by steel and concrete, which causes significant carbon emissions and accounts for about 8 percent of carbon emission globally. Montana also has the capacity to sustainably produce, harvest and mill large quantities of timber.

"Mass timber construction, combined with sustainable forest management on public and private lands, can make Montana a leader in achieving a more sustainable future," DeLuca said. "Mass timber construction reduces the dependence on steel and concrete and greatly reduces carbon emission as building with mass timber is, at a minimum, carbon neutral."

A single 40-by-10-foot panel was donated, in part, to the University by SmartLam and F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber. Cut into three smaller subpanels to resemble a tree, the structure was designed and engineered by Seattle-based engineers and architects who are industry leaders in mass timber construction. The kiosk was erected on the UM campus in early February.

The project also was supported by the U.S. Forest Service Wood Innovation Program and private donations.

Cross laminated timber is a mass timber material created from gluing together perpendicular layers of dimensional lumber to create a large structural panel.

Nicknamed the CLTree, the purpose of the kiosk is to increase awareness of the function, utility and efficacy of mass timber construction and assist in the college's efforts to explore the potential construction of a mass timber

eventually could become "a state-of-the-art facility built from sustainably produced Montana resources to meet the

highest green building standard,” DeLuca said.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the CLTree will take place at 1 p.m. The remaining half-day workshop will feature a series of speakers discussing mass timber construction in University Center Room 332. A networking social will follow the event. Speakers include:

- Julie Kies, U.S. Forest Service Regions 1 and 4 Wood and Biomass utilization coordinator, will present “Woods Innovation Program” at 1:30 p.m.
- Casey Malmquist, SmartLam president, will present “How to Grow Buildings” at 2 p.m.
- Leif Johnson, principal at Magnusson Klemencic Associates, will present “Engineering and Mass Timber” at 2:30 p.m.
- Thomas Knittel, design principal at HDR, will present “Green Architecture and Mass Timber Construction” at 3:45 p.m.
- Patrick Holmes, natural resources policy adviser to Gov. Steve Bullock, will present “The Future of Mass Timber in Montana: A Perspective from the Governor’s Office” at 4:30 p.m.

Attendees are encouraged to RSVP to Ben Super at ben.super@supportum.org by Friday, April 26.

###

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UM to Host High School Journalism Day April 18

April 17, 2019

MISSOULA – The University of Montana School of Journalism will host more than 200 students from across the state for its annual High School Journalism Day on Thursday, April 18.

The event begins at 9 a.m. in the University Center Ballroom with the Montana Journalism Education Association's High School Journalism Awards ceremony.

Students spend the rest of the day in Don Anderson Hall engaging in workshops led by UM journalism faculty members. This year's topics include learning to spot fake news, conducting investigative reporting, taking a better photo with smartphones, how to report on diverse communities and learning the basics of podcasting.

"This is one of our favorite days in the J-school," said Denise Dowling, the UM School of Journalism interim dean. "We're proud to welcome the next generation of Montana journalists for a day immersed in all things journalism. We're invigorated by their questions and interest and look forward to showcasing all that a UM journalism education can offer."

The day's schedule includes:

- **8–10 a.m.:** Welcome session and MJEA High School Journalism Awards, UC Ballroom
- **10 a.m.:** “Fake News Game Show,” UC Ballroom

- **11 a.m.:** Workshop Round No. 1, Don Anderson Hall
- “Catch the Bad Guys and Save the World!” with Professor Joe Eaton, Room 004
- “The Reporting Gear in Your Pocket” with Professors Ray Fanning and Jeremy Lurgio, Room 009
- “In the Beginning” with Professor Jule Banville, Room 210
- “They Aren’t Like Me” with Professor Jason Begay, Room 316
- “Only You: Tell Your Story Through Podcasting” with Denise Dowling, Room 309

- **11:10-noon:** High School Adviser’s Session, Room 401
- **noon-12:10 p.m.:** Group Photo, Main Entry of Don Anderson Hall
- **12:10-1 p.m.:** Student lunch in the Food Zoo

- **1:10-2 p.m.:** Workshop Session Round No. 2, Don Anderson Hall
- “Can this Hashtag Get Me Suspended?” with Professor Lee Banville, Room 210
- “Stories that Saved Our Planet” with Professor Nadia White, Room 004
- “Sports Photography for the Non-Sports Fan” with Visiting Professor Preston Gannaway, Room 316
- “You Do You on Youtube” with Professors Kevin Tompkins and Ray Fanning, Room 101
- “Words + Pictures + Your Creativity = Fun with Design” with Professor Keith Graham, Room 009

Founded in 1914, the School of Journalism is now in its second century of preparing students to think critically, act ethically and communicate effectively. The Radio Television Digital News Association has ranked the school among the top 10 in the nation. To learn more about the School of Journalism, visit <http://jour.umt.edu/>.

###

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Discounted Student Housing at UM Now Available for Summer Semester

April 16, 2019



MISSOULA – For the first time ever, the University of Montana will offer discounted residence hall rooms for students enrolled in at least six credits during summer semester.

The new initiative offers an affordable option for students who want to stay in Missoula and take summer courses at UM. Students can live in Jesse Hall for a flat rate of \$300 for a shared room or \$450 for a single room for the summer term. Space is limited so students are encouraged to submit a [Summer Housing Application](#) as soon as possible.

Students must complete six credits over the summer to qualify for the discount. Those who do not complete and pay for the minimum six-semester credit requirement will no longer qualify for the flat rate and they will be assessed a higher nightly room rate.

Students enrolled in courses ending Friday, Aug. 16, will be required to vacate Jesse Hall by 9 a.m. that day.

Students taking classes that end prior to Aug. 16 will be required to vacate their summer rooms by Saturday, Aug. 10.

Summer courses can shorten time to graduation and offer students the chance to take advantage of unique experiential learning opportunities and to learn in accelerated course formats. In 2018, summer enrollment was the highest at UM since 2014, with nearly 3,000 students taking classes.

For more information about summer housing, call UM Housing 406-243-2611 or email housing@mso.umt.edu. For more information about summer semester at UM, visit <http://www.umt.edu/summer>.

###

Contact: UM Housing, 406-243-2611, housing@mso.umt.edu.



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UM Joins Common Application for Prospective Applicants

April 16, 2019

MISSOULA – The University of Montana is the state’s only public university on the Common Application, an online platform that more than 1 million students use to apply to college.

An educational nonprofit, the Common Application provides a single application portal to more than 800 colleges and universities in 20 countries.

For students without resources to pay for multiple, separate college application fees, the Common Application is a popular tool for exploring higher education. In addition to college applications, the platform also shares schools’ admission requirements, tuition scales, and academic and student lifestyle offerings. About one-third of applicants who use the Common Application are first-generation college students, and the platform also serves transfer student applicants.

UM Undergraduate Admissions Director Emily Ferguson-Steger said UM has been on the Common Application for about a month, generating 30 admitted UM students so far.

"I'm really excited for UM to be part of such an amazing program that empowers students to apply to a multiplicity of schools," Steger said. "Today's student applies to between six and eight schools and having UM on the Common App places us at their fingertips, so we're really meeting them where they are."

Steger said UM worked with the Common Application to ensure UM's homegrown application and the platform's central application are similar. Cindy Ferguson, UM analyst for Enrollment Services Systems, also worked to parallel the Common Application's system with UM's digital structure.

"In that sense, we're not asking more of them," Steger said. "We worked to align our application requirements with that of the Common App so that applying to UM is not a duplicitous effort or a roadblock of any kind."

Placing students at the very center of all work performed at UM is President Seth Bodnar's top priority of five priorities. Steger said UM's inclusion on the Common Application reflects this priority exactly.

"Essentially, we're providing access to UM at the fingertips of interested students, who are already applying to several schools," Steger said. "We expect to see an increase in matriculation and look forward to welcoming a new cohort of students to UM."

Including UM on the Common Application actively supports the University's mission of public access for all, said Cathy Cole, UM vice president for enrollment and strategic communications.

"Certainly, we're proud to recruit in our backyard, as we want to be top-choice for our Montana students," Cole said. "But part of our enrollment strategy also is to recruit our best-fit students, using various strategies. As we know Generation Z, the students we are currently working with, are tech-natives. They absolutely want to use technology to engage with us. The Common App gives us one more channel in which to engage with them."

The Common Application includes 68 institutions of higher education in the West. To visit UM's application profile, click <http://bit.ly/2v11oYZ>.

###

Contact: Emily Ferguson-Steger, UM Undergraduate Admissions director, 406-243-6268, Emily.ferguson-steger@umontana.edu.

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Career Services Opens Survey for Spring Graduates

April 23, 2019

MISSOULA – Career Services opened the UM Graduation Survey on April 17. Made available through Handshake, the survey is available for all students graduating in May 2019.

The purpose of the Graduation Survey is to gather information about students' post-graduation plans, how they are using their UM education, and what University experiences and services have enhanced their immediate post-graduation plans. The vital data generated will help better support students through programming and support services, as well as help maintain accreditation.

If students or recent graduates take the survey by June 21, they will be entered into a drawing for several prizes, including an iPad, Griz Wear and more.

Handshake, an online recruiting platform used by thousands of employers across the nation to recruit UM students and alumni for a wide variety of jobs and internships, is free and available for all current UM students and alumni. Students and alumni can sign up and log in to Handshake by going to <https://umt.joinhandshake.com/login>.

For more information or questions, call Mani Stubbs, UM Office of Career Services career counselor, at 406-243-6830 or email manuel.stubbs@mso.umt.edu.

###

Contact: Mani Stubbs, career counselor, UM Office of Career Services, 406-243-6830, manuel.stubbs@mso.umt.edu.



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UM Students to Host Volunteer Day at Rock Creek Confluence

April 16, 2019

MISSOULA – University of Montana students and local nonprofit Five Valleys Land Trust invite the public to participate in a restoration event at the confluence of Rock Creek and the Clark Fork River, 35 miles east of Missoula.

UM Ecosystem Science and Restoration program students will host a volunteer day at the site from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 20, in collaboration with FVLT.

This site, located on Rock Creek Road after Rock Creek Exit 126, was purchased by FVLT for the community's use and enjoyment, and FVLT is committed to its restoration and conservation. To aid in those efforts, students and volunteers will have the opportunity to learn about the site's history and future, identify key plant species and help pull weeds, maintain trails and plant shrubs.

Volunteers should bring a water bottle and appropriate outdoor clothing, including work gloves and boots. Volunteers are encouraged to be at the property by 9 a.m.

Organizers will provide refreshments and lunch in the afternoon. RSVP by visiting <https://goo.gl/u3fHsk>, calling 406-549-0755 or emailing Jenny Tollefson at jenny@fvlt.org.

###

Contact: Ben Colman, assistant professor of aquatic ecosystem ecology, 406-243-6315, ben.colman@umontana.edu.



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Missoula Brims With Arbor Week, Earth Week Events

April 12, 2019

MISSOULA – The University of Montana will commemorate Arbor Week and Earth Week 2019 from April 20 to 28 with a flurry of activities designed to honor and enhance the environment.

The UM Environmental Studies program and W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation have



partnered with groups such as UM's [State of Montana Arboretum](#) and [Trees for Missoula](#)

to create the week of events, which includes everything from an exhibit and fun run to lectures and lumberjack competitions during [Forestry Days at Fort Missoula](#).

Some highlights are below, but these and many more events are listed on the Earth Week schedule at www.umt.edu/conservationcalendar and the Arbor Week schedule at <http://www.umt.edu/arboretum/events/default.php>.

- **Saturday through Sunday, April 20-28** – “[A Walk Through Time: From Stardust to Us](#)” exhibit on the UM Oval. The exhibit starts at the Grizzly Bear statue, with every step taking you back in time a million years. This exhibit consists of 90 colorful panels that depict points in time of the 4.6-billion-year life of the solar system and planet Earth. The exhibit at UM is one of only three in the world.
- **Saturday, April 20**
- [Clark Fork River Cleanup](#). Volunteers check in at 9:30 a.m. at Caras Park, and the event runs until 1 p.m. The cleanup is hosted by the Clark Fork Coalition.
- [Run for the Trees](#) at 10 a.m. in Silver Park. The event is hosted by Missoula Parks and Recreation, Trees for Missoula and Run Wild Missoula.
- **Monday, April 22 (Earth Day)**
- [SustainaGANZA Earth Day Celebration](#) from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the UM Oval. This event is sponsored by the Associated Students of UM Sustainability Center and the Student Involvement Network. More than 30 student and community organizations will provide Earth Day activities and information.

- An Arboretum Tour at 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Root, just north of UM's Main Hall.
- **Tuesday, April 23** – “[Trees and Climate Change – Think Globally](#)” presentation by Solomon Dobrowski, UM professor of forest landscape ecology, at 7 p.m. in UM Interdisciplinary Science Building Room 110.
- **Wednesday, April 24** – Community Arboretum Night for the State of Montana Arboretum from 5 to 8 p.m. at KettleHouse Brewing Co. in Bonner. Food from the Chameleon Mobile Kitchen will be available. Bring your friends for beverages, food and a raffle for a good cause.
- **Thursday, April 25** – “[Trees and Climate Change – Act Locally](#)” panel discussion from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in UM Interdisciplinary Science Building Room 110. The event will be moderated by Karen Sippy, executive director of Trees for Missoula. The panelists will include Jamie Kirby, state urban and community forester with the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation; Amy Cilimborg, executive director of Climate Smart Missoula; and Nick Silverman, a UM research scientist.
- **Friday, April 26 (Arbor Day)**
 - A preliminary collegiate lumberjack competition as part of [Forestry Days at Fort Missoula](#) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Fort Missoula. The competition will be followed by a [spaghetti dinner](#) from 6 to 9 p.m. in Garrett Grothen Arena to benefit the UM Student Recreation Association and a silent auction to benefit the [UM Woodsman Team](#).
 - A UM Arbor Day Celebration from 12:15 to 2 p.m. at the Root – the State of Montana Arboretum – located just north UM's Main Hall. Events will include 12:15 p.m. opening remarks by Annie Garde of Montana Public Radio's “Pea Green Boat”; an arboretum history lesson presented by Harry Fitz, a longtime UM history professor; an Arbor Day proclamation and remarks by UM President Seth Bodnar; dedication of new arboretum interpretive signage by Tom DeLuca, dean of UM's W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation; a parade from the Root to the Arbor Day tree planting at 12:45 p.m. at Eck Hall; and a 1:15 p.m. arboretum tour.
- **Saturday, April 27**
 - [Forestry Days at Fort Missoula](#) from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Fort Missoula. Events are hosted by the Society of American Foresters in association with the Montana Woodsman Team and the Historical Museum at Fort Missoula. Events include a one-of-a-kind logging show in which professional and collegiate lumberjacks (including UM's Woodsman Team) compete. These logging athletes hail from across the Pacific Northwest and Canada. Events include cross-cut sawing, wood chopping, pole climbing, axe throwing and more. There will also be antique logging equipment demonstrations and other displays. Draught Works will host a beer garden.
 - An Arboretum Tour from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Root, just north of UM's Main Hall.

###

Contact: Ken Stolz, State of Montana Arboretum committee member, 406-544-0572, ken.stolz@umontana.edu; W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation, 406-243-5521, ; Vicki Watson, UM Environmental Studies professor emeritus, 406-243-5153, vicki.watson@umontana.edu.



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UM American Indian Business Leaders Named Top University Chapter

April 12, 2019

MISSOULA – The American Indian Business Leaders at the University of Montana represented business leadership well at the 25th National AIBL Leadership Conference, earning the “Chapter of the Year” award.

The conference took place on the campus of Nike World Headquarters March 28-30 in Beaverton, Oregon. Jimmy Gomez, a.k.a. “Taboo,” from the Black-Eyed Peas, who is an eight-time Emmy winner and of Shoshone and Mexican decent, was the keynote speaker for the event.

UM’s AIBL chapter won in the University Division at the awards banquet and took home \$1,000, with the student members representing several different tribes and majors. The chapter presented their current activities, community service projects, fundraising efforts and more at the conference.

Participants included:

- Leo John Bird; vice president; Blackfeet, Haida

and Tlingit; public health graduate student.

- Christian Ulibarri, secretary, Taos Pueblo, junior in business marketing.
- Ryan Longtime Sleeping, public outreach vice president, Blackfeet, freshman.
- Dominique Nault, fundraising vice president, Cree, junior in environmental studies.
- Jillian Leigh Topsy, marketing vice president, Cree, freshman in sociology.
- Chase Can, budget and finance vice president, Blackfeet, freshman in political science.
- Millie Bearleggings, public outreach vice president, Blackfeet, biology/pre-med sophomore.
- Craig L. Brown; president; Dine, Salish and Lakota; business senior in management information systems.



Brown, who has been involved with AIBL for the past two years, said that student involvement in organizations such as AIBL is important to college success, especially among Native students.

“Winning awards like ‘Business Plan of the Year’ at last year’s conference and ‘Chapter of the Year’ at this year’s conference is second to engaging Native and non-Native students involved with AIBL to make sure they achieve the success of returning to school each fall and graduating,” Brown said. “I’ll be back next fall with plans on graduating May 2020. I attribute that to that first AIBL meeting I attended and all the events that have engaged me to succeed.”

AIBL is a national organization that seeks to increase the representation of American Indians and Alaskan Natives in business and entrepreneurial ventures. It was founded as a nonprofit at UM in 1994. Today, there are more than 75 chapters nationwide.

###

Contact: Larry Gianchetta, , dean emeritus and American Indian Business Leaders chapter adviser, UM College of Business, larry.gianchetta@business.umt.edu.

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UM Bio Station Launches Business Drive to Support Flathead Lake Watershed

April 12, 2019

YELLOW BAY – The University of Montana's Flathead Lake Biological Station will officially launch its first-ever Bio Station Business Drive fundraising campaign on Monday, April 15.

Gifts will directly support FLBS research and monitoring in the Flathead watershed, which includes Flathead, Whitefish and



Swan lakes, as well as local rivers. This support will allow FLBS to continue and expand its collection and analysis of water samples, use technologically advanced sensor networks and increase chances of detecting unwanted invasive species as early as possible.

The vision for the Bio Station Business Drive came from Lakeside resident Bruce Young, who currently serves on the UM research station's advisory board. The fourth-generation Montanan has been a Realtor for over 40 years and is a longtime advocate for Flathead Lake.

"The greatest mistake we could make is to think someone else is going to look after our most precious resource, which is water," Young said. "The public must be involved and stay involved, and there is no better place to start than FLBS science."

For more than 120 years, FLBS has stood as a world-leading ecological research and education facility on the shores of Flathead Lake. In that time, it has been a sentinel of the Flathead watershed, monitoring water quality and watching for unwanted invasive species.

Declines in water quality and the arrival of new invasive species continue to be the greatest threats to the world-renowned waters of the Flathead and the economies that depend upon them. The Bio Station Business Drive highlights the mutually beneficial relationship between the freshwater resources of northwest Montana and the business communities that benefit from them. This fundraising effort gives local businesses the opportunity to step up as protectors of these irreplaceable resources.



Invasive mussels are perhaps the most formidable threat to fresh water in the Flathead watershed and the rest of the state. Estimates suggest an invasive mussel infestation would cost Montana over \$230 million annually in

revenue loss and mitigation costs. The direct impact of invasive mussels to tourism and recreation is estimated to be over \$120 million per year, while the loss to lake shore property values is estimated to be nearly \$500 million.

Yet aquatic invasive mussels are only one threat facing our freshwater-based economy that FLBS researchers study. Other issues, such as leaching septic systems and climate change, also are growing areas of concern. Increasing water quality monitoring allows researchers to detect threats before they can become problems that destroy the value of lakes, rivers and private property. It also helps managers and legislators make more informed decisions to protect water quality in the Flathead watershed.

Young hopes he can get as many businesses as possible to support the Bio Station Business Drive, but he certainly doesn't expect support from all businesses to be the same. Businesses are encouraged to participate in the drive in any way, such as helping to promote the station in their respective communities either by having FLBS materials available for their customers, helping to further promote the business drive itself or creating a special "Keep Our Waters Blue"-themed products for purchase.

"If businesses are able to provide financial support, that's fantastic," Young said. "If they come up with some other creative way to engage with the business drive, that's great, too. Whether business communities participate at a high level or a lower level, as long as we're all working toward a common goal of doing all we can to monitor and protect the quality of our water, then this business drive will be a huge success."

Young said he's already connected with several chambers of commerce in the Flathead area and already has received an overwhelmingly positive response.

"It's so clearly a win for everybody," he said. "This isn't about politics or making a money grab. It's about water, and water is about life."

The Bio Station Business Drive will run through the summer and end on Oct. 15. Businesses can participate in the drive by emailing Bruce Young at bruce@mr.flatheadlake.com or calling 406-249-9787. FLBS Assistant Director Tom Bansak also is available at tom.bansak@umontana.edu or 406-872-4503.

Businesses also can give directly through the Bio Station Business Drive website at <http://bit.ly/FLBS-BusinessDrive>. More information about Young and the Bio Station Business Drive can be found at <http://bit.ly/FLBS-MrFlatheadLake>.

Gifts to the business drive are part of Campaign Montana, a comprehensive, seven-year fundraising effort that aims to inspire \$400 million in philanthropic giving to UM by the end of 2020. Donors will help UM's vision of a university that drives excellence and innovation in teaching, research and learning. The campaign is managed by the UM Foundation, an independent, nonprofit organization that inspires philanthropic support to enhance excellence and opportunity at UM. Visit <https://www.campaignmontana.org/> to learn more.

###

Contact: Tom Bansak, assistant director, UM Flathead Lake Biological Station, 406-872-4503, tom.bansak@flbs.umt.edu; Ian Withrow, FLBS media/information specialist, 406-872-4544, ian.withrow@flbs.umt.edu.



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Public Invited to Celebrate Native Culture at 51st Annual Kyiyo Powwow at UM

April 11, 2019



MISSOULA – Some of the best Native American dancers and drum groups in North America will gather at the University of Montana on Friday and Saturday, April 19-20, for the 51st Annual Kyiyo Celebration in the Adams Center.

Hosted by the Kyiyo Native American Student Association, the event is one of the oldest student-run powwows in the country and allows the Native American community to share its culture with the UM campus, Missoula and beyond through traditional dance and song. The two-day event will feature dancing and drumming contests, a basketball tournament, vendors and more.

Grand entry times are at 7 p.m. Friday, noon and 7 p.m. Saturday.

Admission costs \$5 per grand entry, or \$12 for a weekend pass. Children age 6 and under and seniors age 65 and older are admitted free. Tickets and passes can be purchased at the door. Dancer registration costs \$5 and drummer registration costs \$50 for 10 passes. Registration is available at the door.

People who volunteer for 3.5-hour shifts during the powwow will receive free weekend admission. Sign up for a volunteer shift at <https://signup.com/go/KBCihFm>.

Kenneth “Tuffy” Helgeson will lead the celebration as this year’s master of ceremonies, along with other prominent community members. Black Otter is this year’s host drum group. Shawntyana Bullshoe will serve as Miss Kyiyo; Mikayla McHugh will be Junior Miss Kyiyo; and Iriana Old Elk will be Little Miss Kyiyo.

The Kyiyo Native American Student Association plays an integral role in promoting the cultural traditions and customs of all Native Americans. Through extracurricular activities offered throughout the year, Kyiyo engages UM students and employees in the cultural identities of Native Americans to support cultural diversity. Kyiyo is open to all Native American and non-native students, as well as any community members. The club is a chartered member of the Associated Students of UM.

For more information visit <http://hs.umt.edu/kyiyo/default.php>.

###

Contact: Mahalia Hendren, marketing coordinator, Kyiyo Native American Student Association, mahalia.hendren@umontana.edu.

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UM Research Identifies Cross-Boundary Solutions to Invasive Weeds

April 11, 2019

MISSOULA – Weeds don't stop at fence lines and neither should solutions, according to research published this week in *Nature Plants* by an international team of 15 researchers, including the University of Montana's Alex Metcalf.

Around the world, invasive plants spread and escalate management costs, despite exhaustive efforts by researchers, extension personnel and land managers. To address this growing challenge, Metcalf joined the team, which includes both natural and social scientists, to examine weed control through a cross-boundary lens.

Management techniques for invasive weeds primarily have been developed for individual landowners, but practices rarely look at how control from a collective perspective would improve overall weed management outcomes. The new paper is a call to action for scholars and practitioners to broaden their conceptualization and approaches to weed management, beginning by evaluating the "public good" characteristics of specific challenges and adopting solutions properly tailored to their social context.

"Traditional approaches to weed control have often ignored the scale, complexity and collective nature of the

problem,” said Metcalf, an assistant professor in UM’s W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation. “What we show with this work is that solutions will be more effective when guided by landscape-scale design principles that encourage cross-boundary cooperation.”

The study, published April 8, frames weed control as a social dilemma, where individual and collective interests do not always align.

“Social dilemmas often take on very different configurations,” Metcalf said. “For example, weed control is almost a classic ‘public good’ problem and requires very different approaches. Correctly classifying the world’s worst weed management challenges helps identify the right type of solution and give people the best chance at achieving their goals.”

The team applied a transdisciplinary approach to four pressing international weed management challenges: plant biosecurity (the protection of plant resources from alien pests through quarantine, port inspections and bulk treatment), weed seed contamination (crop seed sources that can contain weed seeds), herbicide susceptibility (resistant weeds) and biological weed control (classic efforts to deploy host-specific arthropods or pathogens).

“Solutions to these collective problems should be guided by four overarching principles,” Metcalf said. “Stakeholders must share common goals and commitments to contribute to control efforts, values must be shared or good working relationships must be established, individual contributions must be transparent, and resources must be pooled to support those least able to contribute.”

The team of researchers was led by Muthu Bagavathiannan, a Texas A&M University weed scientist, and Sonia Graham, a social scientist at the University of New South Wales, Australia, currently visiting the Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain. The group plans to continue collaborations to advance weed management solutions in Montana and around the world.

Contributors include Bagavathiannan; Graham; Metcalf; Zhao Ma, Purdue University; Jacob Barney, Virginia Tech; Shaun Coutts, University of Sheffield, England; Ana Caicedo, the University of Massachusetts; Rosemarie De Clerck-Floate, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Canada; Natalie West, the United States Department of Agriculture–Agricultural Research Service, Montana; Lior Blank, Agricultural Research Organization, Volcani Center, Israel; Myrtille Lacoste, The University of Western Australia and Curtin University, Australia; Carlo Moreno, The College of Wooster, Ohio; Jeffrey Evans, USDA-ARS, Illinois, now at Farmscape Analytics, New Hampshire; Ian Burke, Washington State University; Hugh Beckie, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, now with University of Western Australia.

Read “Considering Weed Management as a Social Dilemma Bridges Individual and Collective Interests” in Nature Plants online at <https://go.nature.com/2D7sfXX>.

###

Contact: Alex Metcalf, assistant professor, W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation, 814-574-6128, alex.metcalf@umontana.edu.



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UM to Host Heart of the River Event

April 11, 2019

UM News Service

MISSOULA – Missoula residents are invited to the University of Montana campus to perform CPR – conservation, preservation and restoration – on the Clark Fork River.

The public is invited to participate in the drafting of a Clark Fork River Watershed Restoration Plan in a “Heart of the River” event from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, April 16, in the University Center Room 326. The event is hosted by the Clark Fork Kootenai River Basins Council.

A formal restoration plan is required to obtain State of Montana stream restoration funding. The central stretch of Clark Fork River is one of the only sections of the Clark Fork Basin that does not have an approved plan. The river’s central basin runs from Drummond to the river’s confluence with the Flathead



River near Paradise.

Volunteers, with the help of public agencies, are developing a plan by summarizing information on stream problems and potential restoration projects.

Input also is being sought from the public who live, work or play in the Central Clark Fork Basin.

The event will feature an overview of information gathered to date, share a draft outline of restoration plan and list key projects. Participants will break into groups to indicate project priorities, suggest ways to improve, and share ideas for project partners and funding.

To learn more about the Central Clark Fork Watershed Restoration Plan, visit www.tinyurl.com/CentralClarkForkWRP. To RSVP for the Heart of the River event, contact Vicki.watson@umontana.edu.

###

Contact: Vicki Watson, UM environmental studies professor emeritus, 406-243-5153, vicki.watson@mso.umt.edu.

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InnovateUM to Celebrate Innovation, Change-Making

April 11, 2019

UM News Service

MISSOULA – The fourth annual innovateUM event, a celebration of innovation and change-making at the University of Montana, in Missoula and across Montana will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 16, at the DoubleTree Hotel in downtown Missoula.

During innovateUM, UM President Seth Bodnar, Mayor John Engen and Missoula Economic Partnership Director Grant Kier will share updates on new and emerging collaborations that bring together the city, UM and greater local community.



“InnovateUM demonstrates that we are stronger when we work across geographic, institutional and disciplinary boundaries,” Bodnar said. “This collective work is necessary if we are going to continue addressing today’s most complex challenges.”

This year’s innovateUM is a collaboration between the UM Office of Research and Creative Scholarship and its Broader Impacts Group, the Missoula Economic Partnership and the Missoula Mayor’s Office.

“Since it launched in 2016, innovateUM has created a space where the city, University and community can come together to champion innovation and collaboration across sectors and institutions,” said Scott Whittenburg, vice president for research and creative scholarship. “By partnering with the Missoula Economic Partnership at this year’s innovateUM, we’re intentionally exploring how higher education and economic development can work hand in hand to create opportunity and strengthen our community.”

“Communities make positive change when we talk, think and dream together,” Engen said. “InnovateUM is about bringing enthusiastic people together to imagine how we can be better and what we need to do to get better. Seeds are planted every year in this conversation, and we’re beginning to enjoy the harvest.”

The event agenda also includes:

- A keynote talk by Mathew Wendell with IBM Garage on creating innovative environments.
- A keynote talk by Rachel Reilly with the Economic Innovation Group on the Opportunity Zone program, an economic development tool intended to attract private investment into economically distressed communities and promote social mobility.
- A conversation about community-engaged filmmaking with members of the production team from the television series “Perma Red.” Panelists will include Johnny Arlee, a Salish elder and adviser to “Perma Red,” and director Maya Dittloff.
- A live podcast hosted by Justin Angle, associate professor in the UM College of Business, spotlighting innovative UM and community partnerships tackling complex challenges and opportunities in Montana.
- A lightning talk by Big Sky High School students sharing the big ideas that emerged at innovateHS, a partner event for 250 Missoula County high-school students hosted by UM’s Mansfield Center on April 15.
- An afternoon panel discussion and breakout sessions focused on the potential for Missoula’s designated Opportunity Zone.

InnovateUM is free and open to the public, but registration is required. To learn more and register, visit <http://www.umt.edu/big/innovateUM/default.php>. This year’s event sponsors include WGM Group, Blackfoot and Goodworks Ventures.

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UM Relaunches Women's Leadership Initiative

April 10, 2019

UM News Service

MISSOULA – In keeping with the University of Montana's commitment to building a safe and empowering campus and one that accelerates women's careers of impact, President Seth Bodnar announced the relaunch of the Women's Leadership Initiative for the 2019-20 academic year. This relaunch will be supported financially by private donor support, featuring a new partnership with the Missoula Federal Credit Union.

Initially launched in 2015, the Women's Leadership Initiative uses a collaborative approach to build a culture of support for women's leadership. The program is cohort-based and focuses on the development of female faculty and staff members while also supporting UM students, employees and alumni with career advancement and leadership training.

"We are a stronger UM when we foster opportunities for all people to lead and grow. The WLI is one important way to empower women and recognize their contributions," Bodnar said. "The re-launch of the WLI aligns with our 'mission first, people always' priority for action and is an important part of our perpetual striving to be and do better

for everyone who is a part of the UM family, now and in the future.”

The new cohort will include 10 UM employees and two MFCU employees, modeling a public-private partnership that will benefit campus and the wider Missoula community. Both UM and the MFCU recognize the vital role diversity plays their organizations.

“In addition to opening doors for women on campus, we are excited about how the partnership with Missoula Federal Credit Union builds bridges for women leaders across sectors,” Bodnar said. “This is an example of partnering with place, another of the UM priorities for action.”

As the inaugural WLI cohort was limited to only UM employees, the addition of MFCU employees will add valuable new perspectives, enriching the shared experience and expanding the program's impact to our Missoula community.

“This is an incredibly exciting and important initiative,” said MFCU CEO Jack Lawson. “We applaud the University for recognizing that we all benefit from developing and recognizing women in leadership positions. And we at MFCU are proud not only to support, but also to participate in the WLI. We feel that we are putting our core values to work.”

This new iteration of the WLI is also supported by Denise Grills, a member of the UM Alumni Association board of directors. Grills mentored and coached members of the 2015-16 WLI cohort and remains one of the WLI's biggest supporters. She explained that the WLI supports participants as they develop leadership skills, build community, broaden their networks and gain awareness about historical, cultural and societal norms that impact women's advancement.

“The inaugural Women's Leadership Initiative cohort proved that encouraging women leaders and building their skills resulted in dramatic benefits for them personally and for the University,” Grills said. “Cohort members moved into new leadership roles, participated in the strategic initiatives for UM and served on the search committee for the new president. I am delighted the program will be expanded to include the business community, students and alumni.”

The WLI – which is among a suite of leadership programs housed in the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center – will be led by Dr. Nicky Phear. The director of UM's transdisciplinary Climate Change Studies program recently joined the Mansfield Center to coordinate the WLI as well as initiatives for global youth engagement.

The Mansfield Center was established in 1983 to develop globally minded leaders of integrity in the model of Maureen and Mike Mansfield. The center's executive director, Deena Mansour, was the founding director of WLI and will remain as a lead adviser. Additional leadership for the WLI will be provided by Dr. Christine Fiore as faculty adviser and Claudine Cellier and Kelly Webster as strategic advisers.

For more information email Phear at nicky.phear@umontana.edu or visit the WLI website at www.umt.edu/womens-leadership-initiative/. For information on providing private donor support for the WLI, call Nikki Strizich in the UM Foundation at 406-243-7921 or email nikki.strizich@supportum.org.

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Mansfield Center Hosts 250 MCPS Students in Innovation Conference

April 10, 2019

MISSOULA – The Mansfield Center at the University of Montana will host a new event on Monday, April 15, to encourage local high school students to innovate.

Mansfield Conference: InnovateHS will run from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on campus. Events will be centered in the University Center Ballroom, and a full schedule is online at <http://bit.ly/2OZpLQd>.

The major conference themes are imagination and problem-solving. Throughout the event, innovation will be discussed as the way in which to apply skills with creativity, collaboration and analysis to develop novel solutions to complex problems.

Among the many esteemed speakers will be Larry Simkins, CEO and president of The Washington Companies, and Mathew Wendell, IBM Global Garage leader. Mansfield Conference: InnovateHS also will offer students peer engagement and small group presentations by UM faculty.

The Mansfield Center and Missoula County Public Schools collaborated to design the conference to promote

innovation and problem-solving skills among MCPS students and to show high school juniors a path toward postsecondary education at a two- or four-year college. Nearly 250 juniors from Missoula and Seeley-Swan high schools will attend.

The students will actively participate in considering how innovation applies to their lives and to the issues that most concern them. Faculty sessions will include topics such as “Understanding Law, Civics and Politics,” led by Dr. Anthony Johnstone; “The Future of Work” with Dr. David Firth; and “Music as Persuasion,” led by Dr. James Randall.

The conference also is supported by the Innovation Factory at UM. Led by Elizabeth Dove and Bradley Allen, the Innovation Factory is a physical space in the University Center that fosters the innovative problem solving and design capabilities of UM students, faculty, staff and community members.

To provide an international component to the conference, MCPS students will engage with visiting State Department Fellows in the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI). These 21 visiting fellows from 10 countries across Southeast Asia will be matched with MCPS student groups to draw connections across cultures.

The Fellows are in Missoula for one month as part of a State Department exchange to foster mutual understanding between the people of the U.S. and the people of other countries. The YSEALI program develops innovative ideas for tackling the greatest challenges of economic development, environmental protection, education and civic engagement.

InnovateHS has been scheduled in tandem with UM’s InnovateUM Conference to explore Missoula’s innovation landscape. Twenty-five MCPS students from Big Sky High School selected from the InnovateHS event will extend their learning at InnovateUM, presenting about their experiences and engaging in a bootcamp designed by Dr. Nicky Phear, director of UM’s Climate Change Studies program.

The Mansfield Center builds understanding among people and cultures, while fostering globally minded leaders of integrity in Montana and around the world. Interim Executive Director Deena Mansour said, “After more than 35 years of annual conferences, we are pleased to offer one specifically designed to support area high school students. InnovateHS is a unique opportunity to crystalize the Mansfield Center’s focus on youth, ethics and international engagement.”

“MCPS students live in a university town, and we are thrilled to find deeply engaging ways for them to interact with the exciting options that their futures hold post-graduation,” said MCPS Executive Regional Director Julie Robitaille. “Our students need to be prepared to solve problems and contribute to our thriving Missoula community. This conference is a great way to ensure our youth are prepared to innovate and engage outside the four walls of a classroom.”

For more information on InnovateHS, including a complete schedule, visit <http://www.umt.edu/mansfield/events/innovatehs/default.php>.

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UM Food Pantry Seeks Donations

April 09, 2019

MISSOULA – The University of Montana Food Pantry in the University Center needs some staple items to help some students get through the end of the semester.

A 2018 national survey found that many college students have food insecurity or were homeless during the past year. Those results are online at <http://bit.ly/2YYQOj5>.

“Despite the joke, it’s not normal to survive off ramen noodles,” said Kat Cowley, the UM Food Pantry student coordinator. “It can be harder for students to access resources such as SNAP – formerly known as food stamps – and housing assistance because of their student status.”

Cowley said UM’s new food pantry distributed 278 pounds of food in just the first month. The pantry now is low on rice, beans, canned or frozen fruit, and pasta sauce.

Donations can be dropped off anytime at the after-hours donation basket at the West Atrium Desk in the University Center. The pantry is open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday.

“Another great way to support the UM Food Pantry is to donate online at www.umt.edu/foodpantry or to do a UM

employee payroll deduction,” she said.

Call the UM Food Pantry at 406-243-5125 or email umpantry@umontana.edu if you or your group would like to assist. More information about the pantry is online at <https://www.umt.edu/uc/food-pantry/default.php>, as well as on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

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Montana Public Radio, PBS Programs Named Finalists for Statewide Awards

April 09, 2019

UM News Service

MISSOULA – A number of MontanaPBS and Montana Public Radio programs are finalists for this year's E.B. Craney Awards from the Montana Broadcasters Association and the Greater Montana Foundation.

"Backroads of Montana: Speed of Sound" and "Safe Enough?" are the two finalists in the Television Non-Commercial Program of the Year. William Marcus, Gus Chambers, John Twiggs and Ray Ekness produce the popular "Backroads" program that took viewers on trips to Baker, Vida, Conrad, Arlee and Glendive.

"Safe Enough?" took viewers through the evolving debate over seat belts on buses with interviews from crash experts, lawmakers and school officials. The program was produced by Anna Rau DeVolder of MontanaPBS in Missoula.

MTPR's website, <https://www.mtpr.org/>, is a finalist for Radio Website of the Year. MTPR online editor Josh Burnham and his staff have won the past two awards in this category.

“Alex Not Amy: Growing Up Transgender in the Rural West,” produced by Denise Dowling, University of Montana School of Journalism dean, is a finalist in the Radio Non-Commercial Program of the Year category. The radio documentary took listeners on a 10-year-old’s journey to change his gender legally and socially. It aired on Montana Public Radio last spring.

The E.B. Craney Awards recognize excellence in local news, production, promotion, programs and public service in both radio and television station across the state. The awards will be presented on June 22 at the MBA annual convention in Big Sky.

Montana Public Radio and MontanaPBS are part of the UM Broadcast Media Center.

Montana Public Radio airs across much of western and central Montana at 89.1 and 91.5 in Missoula, 91.9 in Hamilton, 89.5 in Polson, 90.1 in Kalispell, Whitefish and North Valley, 90.5 in Libby, 91.7 in Kalispell, 101.3 in Swan Lake, 91.3 in Butte, 91.7 in Helena, 89.9 in Great Falls, 91.7 in Dillon and online at mtpr.org.

MontanaPBS (KUFM-TV in Missoula, KUSM-TV in Bozeman, KUKL-TV in Kalispell, KBGS-TV in Billings, KUGF-TV in Great Falls and KUHM-TV in Helena) is a service of UM and Montana State University. For more information visit <http://www.montanapbs.org/>.

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Lecture to Discuss Fascinating Scientific Figure From India

April 08, 2019

MISSOULA – Do plants feel pain?

J.C. Bose (1853-1937), an accomplished researcher and scholar from India with wide-ranging interests, believed he had scientifically proven that plants did indeed have such feelings.

The University of Montana will host a lecture about this fascinating researcher titled “J.C. Bose: the Road Not Taken” at 2 p.m. Friday, April 19, in Davidson Honors College Room 119. It will be presented by Dr. Gautam Basu, a biophysics professor from the J.C. Bose Institute in Kolkata, India.

Sponsored by UM’s South and Southeast Asian Studies Program and the Provost’s Office, the lecture is free and open to the public.



Bose was a physicist, biologist, biophysicist, botanist and archaeologist. He pioneered the investigation of radio and microwave optics, made significant contributions to plant science and laid the foundations of experimental science in the Indian subcontinent. He also invented the crescograph, a device for measuring plant growth. A crater on the moon was named in his honor, and he is considered the father of Bengali science fiction.

Bose created automatic recorders capable of detecting incredibly slight movements. These revealed the quivering of injured plants, which Bose interpreted as the power of feeling in plants. His books include “Response in the Living and Non-Living” (1902) and “The Nervous Mechanism of Plants” (1926).

For more information, email gg.weix@mso.umt.edu.

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'Genius Award' Winner to Speak at UM Commencement

April 08, 2019

MISSOULA – The 2019 Spring Commencement ceremonies at the University of Montana on Saturday, May 4, will feature remarks from Dr. Lisa Parks, a UM alumna and 2018 MacArthur Fellow.

Parks is a professor of Comparative Media Studies and director of the Global Media Technologies and Cultures Lab at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Her work explores the global reach of information technology infrastructure and the cultural, political and humanitarian implications of the flow of information.

Her research seeks to understand how media systems can inform and assist citizens, scholars and policymakers in the U.S. and abroad in advancing campaigns for technological literacy, creative expression, social justice and human rights. Parks has collaborated with computer scientists, geographers, journalists, and artists, and



has given lectures in more than 25 countries.

"I am very honored to have been selected as the Commencement speaker this year," said Parks. "I look forward to returning to my alma mater to celebrate this year's graduates."

The MacArthur Fellowship, informally known as the "Genius Grant," is a no-strings-attached award given to talented and creative individuals who have shown "extraordinary originality and dedication in their creative pursuits and a marked capacity for self-direction," according to the MacArthur Foundation. The MacArthur Fellows Program is intended to encourage people of outstanding talent to pursue their own creative, intellectual and professional inclinations.

"We are delighted to have such an esteemed University of Montana graduate and respected thinker as our speaker this year," UM President Seth Bodnar said. "Dr. Parks is a leader in her field, an inspired teacher and scholar who works across disciplines, and an example of the strength of a UM education."

Parks will speak at both ceremonies in the Adams Center. The 9 a.m. ceremony will include all departments and programs within the College of Humanities and Sciences, Missoula College, the School of Journalism, and the College of Visual and Performing Arts.

The **2 p.m. ceremony** will include all departments and programs within the College of Business, the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences, the College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences, and the W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation, and the Master of Public Administration program.

Each ceremony will run about two hours and will feature individual recognition of every student as they cross the stage, as well as the hooding of doctoral students by their advisers. Graduates will have their names read, have their images projected on the screen at the Adams Center and then shake hands with President Bodnar and their respective deans.

In addition, most programs and departments are holding individual celebrations for their students. The full list can

be found at <http://bit.ly/2TV0uY2>.

Additional information about Spring Commencement can be found at <http://bit.ly/2BVUVT6> or by calling Rebecca Power in the UM Registrar's Office at 406-243-6318.

###

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Griz Chat with Michael McFaul

April 05, 2019

MISSOULA

selling author and Stanford University professor.

McFaul will be at the University of Montana to deliver the final installment of the President's Lecture Series on Wednesday, April 10.

After serving five years as special assistant to President Barack Obama and later as senior director for Russian and Eurasian Affairs at the National Security Council at the White House, McFaul was posted in Moscow as the U.S. Ambassador to the Russian Federation from 2012 to 2014.

Ahead of his lectures, McFaul shared his insights with UM News about learning the Russian language, foreign service career opportunities for students and competing in high school speech and debate with Sen. Steve Daines.

UM News: We're in the middle of a complicated



national discourse about foreign interference with America's democratic electoral process. What do you make of this?

McFaul: Russian President Vladimir Putin approved an aggressive campaign to interfere in our 2016 presidential

election to influence voter preferences and also more generally to exacerbate polarization in American society. Nothing of this scale has ever happened in American history. It was not President Trump's fault that Putin orchestrated this influence campaign, but now it's time for the Trump administration and the U.S. Congress to act to prevent future attacks from Russia and other hostile countries. Because of polarization in Washington, as a country we have not taken the necessary steps to protect our voters, media and electoral infrastructure from new attacks. Now that the Mueller report has been completed, I hope we will pivot to working on necessary prescriptive measures.

UM News: Your trajectory from being a kid from Montana to serving as the U.S. Ambassador to Russia is impressive. What might you say to today's Montana students about foreign service career opportunities and possibilities?

McFaul: If you have the chance to serve our great country as an ambassador, do it!

I loved the job, and I hope UM students will consider the State Department as a career option. I met some of the most talented, most dedicated, most patriotic people in the foreign service when I worked at the White House and the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. Working at the State Department offers a unique and diversified career path in that you get the opportunity to serve in Washington, as well as several overseas posts. And to prepare you to work abroad, the State Department will pay you to learn foreign languages. You also have the opportunity to work on multiple issue areas over the course of your career, including (for me); arms control, trade, business development, public diplomacy, regional security issues and human rights. I highly recommend this form of service to our country.

UM News: When did you first begin studying Russian, and why is it a language students should pursue in this decade?

I first became interested in U.S.-Soviet relations while on the debate team at Bozeman Senior High School in my junior year. My high school debate partner that year was Steve Daines, now Sen. Daines. We were a pretty good team! I then started studying Russian fall quarter of my freshman year at Stanford and took my first trip to Leningrad (now called St. Petersburg) the summer after my sophomore year, again to continue to learn Russian. It took me a long time to become comfortable speaking the language. Russian is an important language because Russia is still one of the major powers in the international system. After Chinese, I'd say it's the most important language to learn for anyone interested in foreign policy or national security affairs.

UM News: You've dedicated your scholarship to studying the impact of advancing democracy. What are your grounding beliefs about the power of democracy to elevate humanity?

McFaul: First, to paraphrase Winston Churchill, democracy is the worst system of government except for all the others tried before. Democracies are better at securing people's human rights, they're good at producing economic wealth, public opinion polls show that most people around the world still desire democracy and democracies do not go to war with each other. And finally, the U.S. has a national security interest in advancing democracy since every country that has attacked us in the past was an autocracy. Every country that threatens our security today is an autocracy, while some of our most loyal allies are democracies. It's also really hard for the United States to promote democracy abroad. Military intervention rarely works. So for me, I focus on education – trying to transmit ideas and research about democracy around the world as the best way for Americans to help promote democracy around the world. To be more credible when trying to promote democracy abroad, we have to start first by getting our own house in order.

UM News: Stewarding great power relations on the global stage sounds very challenging. How do you go about getting people from all walks of life, languages and priorities to engage proactively?

McFaul: When I was a student in Bozeman Senior High School, I had a theory about great powers relations. I believed we could reduce tensions between countries by getting to know each other better. I still believe this, but with some nuance. At the beginning of the Obama administration in 2009, we tried to reset relations with Russia and found a partner in Russian President Dmitry Medvedev. But then Putin became president of Russia again in 2012 and cooperation halted. As one of the chapters of my book is called, it takes two to tango and Putin wasn't in the mood to dance with us. He sees the United States as Russia's enemy. That said, I still believe that diplomacy must be pursued even with adversarial countries so, at a minimum, we can avoid conflicts because of misperceptions or misunderstandings. More engagement between global societies and not just our governments can create common causes between countries.

UM News: How much do Montanans and Russians have in common, besides boreal resiliency to long winters?

McFaul: I love Russia. I have many Russian friends and admire a lot of Russian culture and history. I find many similarities between Montanans and Russians who don't live in Moscow or St. Petersburg (however, New Yorkers and Muscovites have a lot in common). In smaller Russian cities, people are friendly, non-nonsense and very hospitable. And out in Siberia, hunting, fishing and camping are central activities. I think most Montanans would feel very comfortable hanging out with non-urban Russians; so long as you're prepared to drink vodka instead of Moose Drool.

Presenting "From Cold War to Hot Peace: An American Ambassador in Putin's Russia," at 7:30 p.m. at the Wilma in downtown Missoula, McFaul will draw from years as an accomplished scholar of great power relations on the international stage. That same day McFaul also will present "U.S. Foreign Policy in the Trump Era" at 3:30 p.m. in the UC Theater. Both events are free and open to the public and doors will open one hour before each event.

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UM Students Become Wyss Conservation Scholars

April 04, 2019

MISSOULA – Four University of Montana students have been named 2019-20 Wyss Scholars for Conservation in the American West.

This year's scholars are Anna Wearn from **Portland, Oregon**; Taylor Simpson from **Rome, Georgia**; Hannah Leonard from Missoula; and Daniel Brister from **Arlee**.

The Wyss Scholars Program provides financial support to UM students who have committed to careers in Western land conservation with a federal or state land management agency or at a nonprofit in the region. It is funded through the Wyss Foundation, a private charitable foundation dedicated to supporting innovative, lasting solutions that improve lives, empower communities and strengthen connections to the land.

Wearn holds degrees in geography and Spanish from Dartmouth College. She worked for the Natural Resources

Defense Council in San Francisco prior to joining UM's Environmental Studies master's program in fall 2018. Wearn currently is a National Forest Foundation Conservation Connect Fellow and Environmental Law teaching assistant. Her goal as a Wyss Scholar is to "learn how to develop, effectively advocate for and implement scientifically informed policies that safeguard

critical habitat for the benefit of threatened species and local communities."



Simpson has a degree from Montana State University in biological sciences with a concentration in ecology and conservation biology. He also entered UM's Environmental Studies master's program last fall, focusing primarily on policy coursework prior to undertaking his Juris Doctorate in the Blewett School of Law later this year. He believes the joint degree program will provide a "diverse science-based background to conservation initiatives" involving wildlife and lands in the West.

Leonard earned her bachelor's degree in

business administration from UM before pursuing a master's degree in resource conservation at the W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation. Using the field of marketing in terms of data collection and analysis is necessary for public land conservation, she says, as resources in our world become limited. Leonard seeks to work with a variety of stakeholders on the collaborative goal of preserving the lands she calls home.

Brister received his master's degree in environmental studies from UM and is in



his second year
of the Juris
Doctorate

program in the
Blewett School of Law. He has a long history of environmental
advocacy and served as the executive director of the Buffalo Field
Campaign, from which he wrote a book of essays on the herds of
Yellowstone. "I will spend the rest of my life working with
grassroots nonprofit conservation organizations and the tribes in
fighting to protect the unique wild landscapes and species of the
West," he said.

To read more about Wyss Conservation Scholars, visit
<http://hs.umt.edu/evst/graduate/wyss-scholars.php>.

###

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Campus Recreation Offers New Residential Summer Camp for Middle School Children

April 04, 2019

MISSOULA – Registration is open for University of Montana Campus Recreation’s brand-new residential summer camp for middle school-age children entering sixth, seventh or eighth grade in fall 2019. The weekly camps run July 8 to Aug. 2.

“When Campus Recreation originally developed a Youth Camps program in 2013, we intended to add programs for middle school children once the day camp was established,” said camps director Natalie Hiller-Claridge.

During the weeklong sessions, running Monday through Friday, campers will stay in residence halls and eat at dining facilities on the UM campus. Off-campus field trips showcasing Montana’s unique recreation opportunities, as well as counselor-led games and activities, fill each day.

The highlight of each session is an overnight campout, and this year’s destinations include Lewis and Clark

Caverns, Glacier National Park, Gates of the Mountains and Placid Lake.

Registration costs \$450 per week. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/2VsRiMt>.

“We received numerous requests from parents to add a camp for their children in junior high,” Hiller-Claridge said. “When I was approached by one of our counselors in 2018 about an internship, I jumped at the opportunity to work with her to finally create the residential camp.”

Kaitlynn Koke, a Campus Recreation intern who has devoted the past six months to shaping every aspect of the camp, is proud and excited to launch the new summer activities.

“This is the opportunity to build memories and friendships that last a lifetime,” she said.

###

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UM Mansfield Center Hosts Migration Forum

April 04, 2019

MISSOULA – The Mansfield Center at the University of Montana will host a forum on migration featuring Central American participants in a U.S. State Department leadership program. The event will take place at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 11, at the Public House at 130 E. Broadway in Missoula.

The event will feature guests from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras now visiting Montana as part of a [U.S. Department of State Sports Diplomacy](#) exchange. Most of the people detained at the border trying to enter the United States come from these three countries. The speakers will discuss the context in which migration occurs, as well as how it affects families and communities.

UM political science Professor Paul Haber also will address the history and landscape of Central American migration, and law Professor Anthony Johnstone will discuss the constitutional implications of the current crisis at the border.

Bob Seidenschwarz, president emeritus of the World Affairs Council, will moderate the talk. Audience members are invited to engage with speakers in a moderated Q-and-A session, as well as during a reception immediately

following the forum.

The Mansfield Center builds understanding among people and cultures while fostering globally minded leaders of integrity in Montana and around the world.

“This forum is one in a continuing series designed to engage the community in balanced public discourse on issues of critical importance to our country and the world,” said Mansfield Center Executive Director Deena Mansour. “Such sessions often capitalize on the opportunity to share personal stories and expertise with international visitors. This forum is especially timely given recent developments to reduce U.S. aid to these three countries and discussions of closing the border.”

In July 2018, 20 Montanan youth and professionals traveled to El Salvador on an all-expense-paid program as a part of the U.S. Department of State's Sports Diplomacy Sport for Social Change program, under the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

In exchange, 26 Central Americans are in Montana through April 13, working with their Montana counterparts on ways that sports can play a role in youth development. The program builds ethics of teamwork and self-discipline in youth that can lead to success in other aspects of their lives.

As part of its suite of international exchange programs, the Mansfield Center has hosted Sports Diplomacy exchanges since 2013, sending Montanans to China, Laos and El Salvador. In May 2019, a delegation will travel to Peru.

The U.S. Department of State Sports Diplomacy division was created to increase dialogue and cultural understanding between people around the world through sports. The division's use of sports as a platform exposes international exchange participants to U.S. culture while providing them with an opportunity to establish links with U.S. sports professionals and peers.

In turn, Americans learn about foreign cultures and the challenges young people from other countries face today. Sports Diplomacy has involved tens of thousands of people from more than 100 countries in sports exchanges.

For more information on Mansfield sports diplomacy exchanges, visit <http://bit.ly/2YI5PG1>.

###

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UM Licensing and Trademark Program Garners National Award

April 03, 2019

MISSOULA – The University of Montana’s Trademark and Licensing program garnered record-breaking royalties in 2018-19 through innovative programming, earning a 2019 Synergy Award from the International Collegiate Licensing Association this month.

The award is given annually to an exceptional campus that has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to collegiate licensing. It is the second time UM has won the award, and UM is the first institution to receive this award twice.



“It’s an honor to be recognized with the prestigious Synergy Award, particularly when we’re in the ring with top-tier schools with much greater resources and peer institutions that are consistently turning out creative programs for

their schools,” said Erika Palmer, UM’s director of Trademarks and Licensing. “I think the award speaks to our ingenuity capitalizing on unique programs and finding ways to connect them with our University. We share this award with our licensing partners, retailers, fans and the greater Griz community, as their engagement and support of our brand allows us these fun opportunities to be creative.”



This year, Palmer worked with Nike by Branded Custom Sportswear to license an exclusive selection of products in honor of UM alumnus Dave Dickenson, a 2018 National College Football Hall of Fame inductee and former quarterback of the 1995 National Championship team. The products, featuring a mix of Dickenson's retired UM jersey number 15, the copper and gold throwback colors and a retro mark, had a near 100 percent sell-through rate and were popular with fans, earning roughly \$100,000 in nontraditional licensed product sales for the University.

Additionally, Palmer worked with Big Sky Brewing Co. to develop a Griz Montana Lager in honor of the University's 125th anniversary year, as a short-term, limited-edition product for the market with statewide and surrounding state distribution. Sales for the

product generated more than \$250,000, and a promotional video for the lager received more than 57,000 views and 1,000 shares on social media channels in a single day.

Spearheaded by Palmer, UM experienced record-breaking royalties and a record \$4 million in sales of Griz products, including 530,000 units sold.

ICLA President Adam Parker said UM's licensing program was very deserving of the nationally competitive award.

“Erika Palmer, with her team at UM, were nothing short of amazing in 2018,” Parker said. “From earring record-breaking royalties with the 125th Griz lager, plus numerous other programs both on and off campus, Montana ran a licensing program that is very deserving of the Synergy award.”

Palmer, a 2005 UM alumna, returned to UM in 2009 and has continued to help fortify the University's brand value through licensed product sales and trademark protection. At UM, she assists with campuswide marketing and advertising initiatives and is the sole employee dedicated to trademark licensing.

Palmer said she was pleased to “continue the enforcement and brand protection efforts that strengthened UM’s trademark portfolio development.” Described by her peers as one of the “unsung heroes” pushing creative ideas, she is responsible for establishing a partnership between UM and Operation Hat Trick, a nonprofit that generates awareness and support for the recovery of wounded service members and veterans through the sale of OHT-branded merchandise and products. Dot Sheehan, founder of OHT, has been

named the 2019 ICLA Service Award Recipient, for her dedication to supporting veterans and their recovery.

The Synergy Award was previously awarded in 2001 under the leadership of former UM licensing director Denise Lamb and University Executive Vice President Bob Frazier.

For more information about the honor, visit <http://bit.ly/2YOga2Y>.

###

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Conference to Feature Leading Expert on Middle East

April 03, 2019

MISSOULA – One of the world’s foremost experts on Middle Eastern history and politics will speak during the 17th annual International Conference on Central and Southwest Asia, which will be held at the University of Montana on Thursday and Friday, April 18-19.

Will Todman, a visiting scholar and Associate Fellow at the Middle East Program of the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C., will present the conference keynote lecture, “The Ties That Bind: Family, Tribe, Nation and the Rise of Individualism in the Arab World,” at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 18, in the University Center Theater.

“To have someone of Will Todman’s scholarly stature speak here at UM is an incredible opportunity,” said Mehrdad Kia, co-director of the University’s Central and Southwest Asian Studies Center. “He will illuminate the history and modern-day changes that are affecting a vitally important part of the world.”

Other presentations will include a roundtable talk with award-winning journalist Dexter Roberts, the former China bureau chief at Bloomberg Business week, as well as a panel presentation with four leading Chinese scholars on

the critical role played by China in the Middle East and North Africa.

All conference events are free and open to the public and will be held in the third-floor UC Theater. Event sponsors include UM's Central and Southwest Asian Studies Center, Shanghai International Studies University, the Montana World Affairs Council, the UM Department of History and the UM Provost's Office.

A full conference schedule follows:

Thursday, April 18

- **11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. – “The Partition of the Indian Subcontinent: Women and the Disharmony and Disfiguration of India.”** Presented by Ekta Gupta, a visiting Fulbright Scholar, University of Lucknow, India.
- **12:30-2 p.m. – Student Panel.** Ardi Kia, Central and Southwest Asian Studies Center co-director, will chair the panel. Student presenters are Chris Hanson, Sean Kitson, Isaac Mann, Kelcie Murphy and Jacob O'Neil.
- **2-3:30 p.m. – “Russia, the United States and the Middle East: A Panel Discussion.”** UM History Professor Michael Mayer will chair, and the presenters are Robert Greene, UM history department chair, and Robert Seidenschwarz of the Montana World Affairs Council and a visiting scholar with the Central and Southwest Asian Studies Center.
- **7-8:30 p.m. – “The Ties That Bind: Family, Tribe, Nation and the Rise of Individualism in the Arab World.”** Keynote lecture presented by Will Todman, Associate Fellow at the Middle East Program of the Center for Strategic and International Studies. UM President Seth Bodnar; Janet Rose, executive director of the Montana World Affairs Council; and Robert Seidenschwarz, MWAC chair; will provide opening remarks.

Friday, April 19

- **10:30-11:30 a.m. – “From Factory of the World to Superpower: China's Troubled Transition.”** A conversation with Dexter Roberts, award-winning journalist and former China bureau chief at Bloomberg Businessweek. Seidenschwarz also will present.
- **11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. – “The Resurgence of Anti-Semitism in the United States, Europe and Beyond.”** Presented by UM's Mayer and Bruce Barrett, a Missoula attorney and visiting scholar with the Central and Southwest Asian Studies Center.
- **1-2 p.m. – “Centrality of Central Asia.”** Presented by Ardi Kia.
- **2-4:30 p.m. – “China, Central Asia and the Middle East.”** Zhen Cao, chair of UM's Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, will chair the event. Presenters are Professors Niu Song, Qian Xuming, Zhang Yuan and Zhao Jun, all from Shanghai International Studies University.

###

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Griz Glow Fun Run Lights Up the Night April 13

April 03, 2019

MISSOULA – Runners and walkers of all ages are invited to get their glow on during the seventh annual Griz Glow 5K Fun Run at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, April 13, at the University of Montana Golf Course.

Registration costs \$30, and children 10 and under are free. Participants will receive a race T-shirt, a reflective race number and LED bracelets and necklaces at check-in. Register online at <http://bit.ly/2l6NIUq> by noon April 13.

Participants are encouraged to wear whites and brights for the glow-in-the-dark themed event. Prerace festivities begin during check-in at 7:30 p.m. with free face painting and a blacklight photo booth. Racers may purchase food and beverages from the Iron Griz restaurant until 9 p.m. or hot dogs, hot cocoa and other beverages at the Iron Griz booth on the patio.

On-course entertainment will feature Glow Zones, including a glow pit, glow tunnel and more. This year's Glow Zone hosts include Kappa Kappa Gamma, the Montana National Guard and UM Athletic Training.

Run proceeds support UM's Campus Recreation Youth Camps program. Funds raised help make youth camps a

one-of-a-kind experience and aid campers whose families cannot afford tuition. For more information on the program, visit <http://www.umt.edu/crec/YouthCamps/>. For more information on the Griz Glow Fun Run or to volunteer at the event, visit <http://www.umt.edu/grizglow/>.

###

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Montana Public Radio Spring Pledge Drive Begins April 7

April 02, 2019

MISSOULA – Montana Public Radio will feature music celebrations, thank-you gifts and pets – lots and lots of pets – during its annual Spring Pledge Drive this April.

This year's fundraising week begins at 8 a.m. Sunday, April 7, and concludes with the popular Pet Wars competition from 4:30 to 10 p.m. Sunday, April 14. MTPR's fundraising goal for the week is set at \$610,000.



"It's our favorite week of the year here at Montana Public Radio," said Anne Hosler, MTPR director of membership. "We get to connect with our members, volunteers and those individuals and businesses that share our fabulous listener-donated thank-you gifts. We love this week because we get to have fun and do great and important work at the same time."

Some of the interesting listener-donated thank-you gifts available for pledgers include Monte Dolack prints, raft trips, quarts of honey and more. This unique tradition is a hallmark of MTPR's spring pledge week.

Listeners can expect special programming, including a live episode of "The Write Question," with Sarah Aronson interviewing author Debra Magpie Earling. Missoula band Canta Brasil and the University of Montana Jazz Band will perform "Live in Studio B" during the week. Highlights from last summer's MTPR broadcast of the Montana Folk Festival also will air.

In 2019, contributions from listeners and sponsors are projected to make up 75 percent of MTPR's total budget, or \$1.9 million.

"In the past few years, MTPR listeners have really stepped forward to keep the in-depth NPR and Montana news, legislative coverage, hand-picked music and unique children's programming on the air," said Linda Talbott, MTPR fundraising director. "MTPR listeners are passionate about investing in their public radio station, and we look forward to hearing from thousands of returning and new supporters this spring."

Listeners can call during the pledge week at 800-325-1565, donate online at <http://www.mtpr.org> or mail in pledges to MTPR at 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, MT 59812. They also can donate thank-you gifts or volunteer to answer phones.

The pledge drive and MTPR are made possible by thousands of people supporting public broadcasting in Montana.

"MTPR is here every day for our listeners across Montana," said Ray Ekness, director of the UM Broadcast Media Center that houses MTPR. "We appreciate that our listeners are there for us each spring."

Montana Public Radio airs across much of western and central Montana at 89.1 and 91.5 in Missoula, 91.9 in Hamilton, 89.5 in Polson, 90.1 in Kalispell, Whitefish and North Valley, 90.5 in Libby, 91.7 in Kalispell, 101.3 in Swan Lake, 91.3 in Butte, 91.7 in Helena, 89.9 in Great Falls, 91.7 in Dillon and online at <http://www.mtpr.org>.

###

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Linda Talbott, MTPR development director, 406-243-4215, linda.talbott@umontana.edu.



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Montana Supreme Court Case to Take Stage at UM's Dennison Theatre April 5

April 02, 2019

MISSOULA – The Montana Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in *Kalispell v. Thomas Salsgiver* at 9:30 a.m. Friday, April 5, in the Dennison Theatre at the University of Montana.

An introduction to the hearing begins at 9 a.m. with Professor Jordan Gross of the Alexander Blewett III School of Law. The hearing is expected to last an hour and a half. The public is invited to attend, along with students from area schools and UM.

Thomas Salsgiver of Deer Lodge was arrested and charged with partner family member assault. He was ordered to personally appear for all court proceedings, with boilerplate language warning that failure to appear would result in a waiver of his right to trial by jury.

Salsgiver did not appear for his omnibus hearing, although his attorney did. Defense counsel filed a motion for jury trial, arguing that he did not voluntarily, knowingly and intelligently waive his right to a jury trial.

The Montana Constitution includes a provision that cases may be tried without jury if a person defaults on their

appearance. The Sixth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution contains no such provision. Salsgiver contends that his Sixth Amendment right to a trial by jury was violated, and that the municipal court erred by relying on case law referencing the Montana court's jury trial provisions.

For more information call Sara Kryder, Blewett School of Law's director of communications and events, at 406-243-5730 or email sara.kryder@umontana.edu.

###

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UM Theatre & Dance to Perform ‘Assassins’ in April

April 02, 2019

MISSOULA – The University of Montana School of Theatre & Dance will present “Assassins” by Stephen Sondheim and John Weidman to audiences this April.

“Assassins” is directed by UM theater and dance Professor Randy Bolton, with choreography by Pamyla Stiehl, theater associate professor, and music direction by first-year Master of Fine Arts candidate Jane Best. Performances will take place at 7:30 p.m. April 10-13 and April 17-20, and at 2 p.m. April 14 and 21 in the Masquer Theatre in UM’s Performing Arts and Radio/TV Center.

The nine individuals who attempted to assassinate our nation’s presidents – successful or otherwise – are portrayed with passion and pathos in Sondheim and Weidman’s seminal musical, the winner of multiple Tony awards. Set against the backdrop of a twisted metaphysical carnival game with the prize being the American Dream itself, “Assassins” forces us to confront our culture (or cult?) of celebrity and the sometimes violent means through which it is pursued.

General admission tickets cost \$20, while senior and student tickets cost \$16. Admission for children 12 and under

is \$10. Tickets are available by calling the UMArts Box Office at 406-243-4581 from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday or ordering online at www.umt.edu/theatredance.

For more information, call Bolton at 406-243-2800 or email randy.bolton@umontana.edu.

Remaining UM School of Theatre & Dance performances for the academic year are online at <http://www.umt.edu/umarts/theatredance/Season/18-19-season.php>.

###

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UM to Host Educators Career Fair April 8

April 01, 2019

MISSOULA – The University of Montana will host the multistate Educators Career Fair, where teacher candidates, school counselors, speech-language pathologists and school psychologists can network with regional and national school districts, on Monday, April 8. The fair is open to all UM education students and alumni.

Teacher candidates can attend a strategy session from 8 to 9 a.m. in University Center Room 225. The hourlong workshop includes a mock interview between school administrators and a teacher candidate, as well as opportunities for candidates to ask questions about the fair.

Candidates can attend information sessions hosted by Montana and out-of-state school districts from 9 to 11 a.m., and school districts will greet, network with and interview teacher candidates from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Educators Career Fair.

School districts can register for the fair online through Handshake, <https://umt.joinhandshake.com/login>, where they also can post available teaching positions.

A list of the school districts attending and the schedule of events is online at <http://www.umt.edu/career/about/career-fairs/educators-career-fair/default.php>. For more information, call the UM

Office of Career Services at 406-243-2239.

###

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UM Business Dean Accepts New Position

April 01, 2019

MISSOULA – Christopher Shook, the Sprunk and Burnham Dean of the College of Business since 2016, will leave the University of Montana this June to serve as dean of the Gordon Ford College of Business at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

“While it was not an easy decision to leave the College of Business at this exciting time of transformation, I’m really excited to be closer to my daughters, son-in-law and especially my grandchildren,” Shook said.

Provost Jon Harbor said an interim dean will be appointed before Shook steps down.

Shook joined UM in 2016 in the first dean position at UM to be endowed – funded through philanthropy – by dedicated donors and alumni Mark Burnham and Eric Sprunk.

Shook immediately started setting in motion his vision to upgrade the School of Business Administration, as it was known at the time, to the College of Business – confirming its status as the top business school in Montana, the No. 1 college of business in the Big Sky Conference and one of the best in the Northwest.

UM’s College of Business offers undergraduate majors in accounting, finance, international business, management,

management information systems and marketing. At the graduate level, it offers the only separately accredited Master of Accountancy in Montana and the first Master of Science in business analytics in the Pacific Northwest.

Its Master of Business Administration – the only degree of its kind in the state – allows students to earn their diploma either on campus or fully online, and can also be taken as part of dual degree programs with law, pharmacy and physical therapy.

UM's John Ruffatto Business Startup Challenge is another signature feature of the College of Business. Each year, \$50,000 is awarded to college students throughout the state who pitch their business ideas to a panel of 50 judges. The event is key to the future of entrepreneurship in Montana. Notable past winners of the Challenge include Chilton Skis and Five on Black.

The college also is known for graduating students who enter the workforce not only with business skills, but real-world acumen. Its list of notable and accomplished alumni is extensive and includes highly successful entrepreneurs, as well as current and former executives at Fortune 500 companies and locally influential startups.

U.S. News and World Report has ranked UM's College of Business as the top business school in the Big Sky Conference for the past two years.

"The College of Business is a place where students can go to get an education that lets them turn their passion into their job," Shook said. "We provide real-world experiences and contacts that they can leverage after graduation. It has been a privilege to work alongside staff, faculty and alumni who are passionate about transforming the lives of students. I know that the great work being done at the college will continue and that the best is yet to come. I am proud to have been a small part of its current and future success."

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UM Study: Tech Companies Thrive in Montana

April 01, 2019

MISSOULA – The University of Montana’s Bureau of Business and Economic Research recently found that high-tech companies continue to be a critical component of Montana’s economy. After generating more than \$2 billion in revenue in 2018, the industry is growing up to nine times faster than the statewide economy.

According to a BBER survey, given to the 7,500 members of the Montana High Tech Business Alliance, high-tech jobs pay more than twice the median earning income for Montana workers and the industry is the third highest-paying sector in Montana.

The survey found that the Montana High Tech Business Alliance membership continues to grow, and members earn a salary 60 percent higher than the average Montana worker, at about \$65,000. That wage also is expected to increase by 5 percent in 2019, which is significantly faster than the 3.2 percent growth of all Montana employers, according to BBER. Survey respondents also expect to add 1,700 new jobs in 2019 and contribute at least \$125 million in capital investments in Montana, a 45.3 percent increase from 2018.

“We continue to see tech’s influence on Montana’s fastest growing cities,” Patrick Barkey, BBER director.

Christina Quick Henderson, executive director of the Montana High Tech Business Alliance, said 2018 was an outstanding year of growth for Montana's high-tech industry.

"With a record \$2 billion in revenue, substantial acquisitions and the largest investments the state has ever seen with PFL and onX, the past year was very successful for Montana," Henderson said. "Five years in, we are more committed than ever to responsible tech growth that helps Montana companies create engaging, high-paying jobs while celebrating and sustaining our incredible quality of life."

Montana-based Blackmore Sensors and Analytics received large out-of-state investments in 2018.

"Blackmore's 2018 Series B with BMW iVentures and Toyota AI Ventures demanded rapid growth," said Blackmore Sensors and Analytics CTO Stephen Crouch. "Montana's quality of life was key to attracting new talent as we nearly tripled in 2018. The High Tech Business Alliance is an outstanding outlet for sharing this growth experience and learning from companies facing similar challenges."

Companies who took the survey cited coding, programming, marketing and technical skills as the top skills sought after in new employees and listed software developers and sales managers as their most hired titles. Survey respondents also said they hire about 75 percent of new employees from within Montana and for the fifth year in a row, the BBER survey found that Montana's quality of life provided significant advantages to doing business in the state.

The survey found industry impediments to growth are skilled technology workers and securing capital.

The full 2019 Montana High Tech Industries report can be viewed at www.bber.umt.edu.

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